

**NEW YEAR'S DONATIONS FOR HOMES, &c.**  
THE COMMITTEE OF THE  
**LONDON FEMALE PREVENTIVE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTION**  
Very gratefully ACKNOWLEDGE the following CONTRIBUTIONS in aid of this Mission of Mercy for the Rescue of Friendless Young Women and Girls:—  
Dowager Lady S., £10; J. R., £5; Mrs. G. H. E., £3; Mrs. B., £2; E. D., £2; J. H., £3 3s.; J. J., £1, J. D., 10s.; Gainsboro, 5s.; collected, Miss M., £4 10s. 6d.  
Summary of Admissions during 1884.  
OPEN-ALL-NIGHT REFUGE.—670 young women and girls have been lodged this year, and more than half permanently helped.  
HOMES.—About 400 have been admitted. Most of these were country girls.  
The inmates are fed and clothed, provided with situations, or otherwise assisted. Contributions may be sent direct to the Bankers of the Society, Lloyd's, Barnett's, Bosanquet's Bank, 73, Lombard-street; or to Francis Nicholls, Esq., of the committee, 14, Old Jewry-chambers, E.C.  
OFFICES—200, EUSTON-ROAD, LONDON. **EDWARD W. THOMAS, Secretary.**  
£200 IN DONATIONS WAS URGENTLY REQUIRED ON THE 31st ult.

**ARMY SCRIPTURE READERS' AND SOLDIERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, 4, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, CHARING CROSS.**  
PATRONS—His Grace the ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY; Right Hon. EARL of SHAFTESBURY.  
PRESIDENT—GENERAL SIR A. J. LAWRENCE, K.C.B.  
SPECIAL APPEAL.

The Friends of the Soldier are earnestly appealed to for FUNDS for the continued support of the Society. Ninety Scripture Readers are now actively employed in the Army at home and abroad.  
With such unquestionable testimony on all sides to the beneficial influence of the Reader in camp, in barrack, and in hospital, we cannot come to any other conclusion than that the Lord's blessing is resting in no small degree upon this Institution; and with this conviction deeply impressed on our hearts, we lay this matter before all who can feel for a soldier's trials, a soldier's temptations, a soldier's devotion to his Queen and country, but, above all, for a soldier's everlasting welfare. confident—nay, more than confident—assured—that he will cause unknown supporters to spring up upon the right hand and upon the left, and stimulate old friends to fresh exertions. Two additional readers have sailed for Egypt and South Africa.  
CONTRIBUTIONS will be THANKFULLY RECEIVED by the Treasurer, V. G. M. Holt, Esq., 17, Whitehall-place; at the Bankers, National Provincial Bank of England, 212, Piccadilly; by the Secretary, Mr. William A. Blake; or by the Hon. Secretary, Colonel J. W. P. Sandwith.

**BISHOP of LONDON'S FUND.—A SUMMARY of the CHURCHES BUILT with the aid of grants from the Fund during the last twenty years.**  
The Fund has existed for 21 years, and during that time—besides supplying from year to year a large number of missionary clergy and lay agents, and assisting in the erection of many mission buildings, parsonages, and schools—it has made grants in aid of the erection of 135 permanent churches already completed and consecrated, of which 124 were intended to be parochial churches, with separate districts and endowments, eight were built as chapels of ease, and three were erected to replace old parochial churches which required rebuilding.  
Of the 124 which were built as new parochial churches, 116 have had districts legally assigned to them, of which the aggregate population is no less than 813,431, without including, except in a few instances, any increase of population since 1881. And 119 have now permanent revenues amounting in the aggregate to £42,572 per annum. The cost of these churches have been only recently built, and the arrangements for assigning districts and endowing them have not as yet been completed.  
All of the churches above referred to are in parishes formerly within the Diocese of London, but some of them have since been transferred to the new Dioceses of Rochester and St. Albans respectively.  
Besides the 124 churches which are actual or expectant incumbents officiate in the new churches above mentioned, a considerable number of clergymen have also been provided to act as curates, and for some of these annual stipends are supplied by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

List of 105 New Parochial Churches Built with Aid from the Fund within the present Diocese of London.  
St. Andrew's, Fulham  
St. Peter's, Fulham  
St. James's, Moor-park, Fulham  
St. Matthew's, Hammersmith  
St. Simon's, Hammersmith  
St. Luke's, Shepherd's-bush  
St. Thomas's, Shepherd's-bush  
St. Michael's, South Kensington  
St. Clement's, North Kensington  
St. Helen's, North Kensington  
St. John's, North Kensington  
St. Andrew and St. Philip, North Kensington  
St. John's, Chelsea  
All Saints, South Acton  
St. Michael's, Chiswick  
St. John's, Ealing  
St. Matthew's, Ealing  
St. Stephen's, Hounslow  
St. Paul's, Old Brentford  
St. Paul's, Hounslow-heath  
St. Matthew's, Enfield  
St. Mary's, Edmonton  
Holy Trinity, Wealdstone, Harrow  
Holy Trinity, Kilburn  
St. Luke's, Kilburn  
St. John's, Kilburn  
All Souls, Harlesden-green  
Christ Church, Finchley  
St. Mary's, Primrose-hill  
St. John's, Hornsey  
Holy Innocents, Hornsey  
Holy Trinity, Hornsey  
All Saints, Highgate  
St. Barnabas, Marylebone  
St. Mark's, Marylebone-road  
St. Peter's, Paddington  
St. Paul's, Paddington  
St. Augustine's, Kilburn  
St. Jude's, Kensal-green  
Christ Church, Somers-town  
St. Bartholomew's, Gray's-inn-road  
St. Jude's, Gray's-inn-road  
St. James's, Hampstead-road  
St. Michael's, Camden-town  
St. Saviour's, Fitzroy-square  
St. Mary's, Brookfield  
All Saints, Clapton-park  
St. John's, Clapton-park  
Christ Church, Clapton  
Holy Trinity, Dalston  
St. Luke's, Hackney  
List of 15 new Churches within the present diocese of Rochester:—  
St. Peter's, Greenwich  
Christ Church, Deptford  
St. Mark's, Deptford  
All Saints, Hatcham  
St. Saviour's, Brockley-hill  
St. Michael's, Woolwich  
St. Paul's, Charlton  
All Saints, Plumstead  
Christ Church, South Hackney  
St. Augustine's, Hackney-wick  
St. Michael's, South Hackney  
St. Mark's, West Hackney  
St. Faith's, Stoke Newington  
All Saints, Stoke Newington  
St. Andrew's, Stoke Newington  
St. Michael's, Islington  
St. Barnabas's, Islington  
St. Bartholomew's, Islington  
St. Silas's, Islington  
St. John Baptist's, Islington  
St. Peter's, Holloway  
St. Stephen's, Holloway  
St. Paul's, Holloway  
St. Anne's, Holloway  
Emmanuel, Holloway  
St. David's, Holloway  
St. Mary's, Charterhouse  
St. Peter's, Clerkenwell  
St. John's, Holborn  
St. Clement's, City-road  
St. Michael's, Shoreditch  
St. Peter's, Hoxton  
St. Saviour's, Hoxton  
St. Anne's, Hoxton  
St. Andrew's, Hoxton  
St. Stephen's, Haggerston  
St. Columba's, Haggerston  
St. Chad's, Haggerston  
St. Augustine's, Haggerston  
St. Olave's, Mile-end New-town  
St. Paul's, Bethnal-green  
St. Barnabas's, Bethnal-green  
St. Matthew's, Stepney  
Christ Church, Stepney  
St. Anthony's, Stepney  
St. Augustine's, Stepney  
St. Benet's, Stepney  
St. Luke's, Stepney  
All Hallows, Bromley  
All Hallows-in-the-East, Bromley  
St. Gabriel's, Bromley  
St. Michael's, Bromley  
St. Saviour's, Poplar  
St. Stephen's, Poplar  
St. Matthias, Poplar  
St. Luke's, Millwall  
St. John's, Cubitt-town  
St. Peter's, Limehouse  
St. Mark's, Victoria-park  
St. Paul's, Old Ford  
St. John's, St. George-in-the-East  
St. Peter's, London Docks, St. George-in-the-East

List of four new Churches within the present diocese of St. Albans:—  
St. James's, Forest-gate  
St. Andrew's, Plaistow  
List of six chapels of ease built within the present diocese of London:—  
St. Mark's, Hanwell  
St. Catherine's, Feltham  
Christ Church, Hendon  
St. Gabriel's, Norland  
and two within the present diocese of Rochester:—  
St. Gabriel's, Newington  
Two churches rebuilt within the present diocese of London:—  
St. Mary's, Whitechapel  
St. Paul's, Hammersmith  
and one within the present diocese of Rochester:—  
St. Mary's, Newington.  
Note.—Grants towards the site of a church are in this statement considered as equivalent to grants towards the church itself. But in most cases where it has been necessary to purchase a site separate grants have been made towards the site and towards the fabric. In one or two instances chapels have been purchased and consecrated as parochial churches, and this has been considered as equivalent to erection of new churches.

**BISHOP of LONDON'S FUND.—SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS may be paid to Messrs. Herries, Farquhar, and Co., 16, St. James's-street; Messrs. Hoare, 37, Fleet-street; Sir Samuel Scott, Bart. and Co., 1, Cavendish-square; Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Barnett and Co., 62, Lombard-street; the Bank of England; or to Edward Thornton, Hon. Secretary, at the office, 46a, Pall-mall. Cheques and post-office orders sent to the office can be made payable to the Hon. Secretary, and should be crossed "Herries and Co."**

**ST. MICHAEL'S ORPHANAGE, WOODSIDE, CROYDON.**  
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Age of Admission, 6 to 9 years.  
For infants and for very young children there is a nursery connected with the Orphanage.

The School is under Government Inspection, H.M. Inspector, in his Report for 1884, says:—  
"The boys have passed a highly successful examination as well in the elementary subjects as in geography and grammar. Poetry is repeated correctly, and in some instances with spirit and expression. Elementary magnetism has been very carefully taught, and is remarkably well answered. In singing the school maintains its pre-eminence. Exercises in military drill are well performed. The boys are under admirable discipline, attentive to their work, well behaved, and happy."

Latin is taught by an University man.  
The boys are allowed to spend the first fortnight in August with their friends.

For Admission and further particulars apply to the Rev. the Chaplain, The Orphanage, Woodside, Croydon.

**CITY of LONDON TRUSS SOCIETY, FINSBURY SQUARE.**  
For the Relief of the Ruptured Poor throughout the Kingdom. Established 1807.  
Patron—H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALES.  
The importance of this Charity to the suffering poor of both sexes and all ages may be gathered from the fact that 388,000 have been already relieved.  
The proportion of aggravated cases to simple cases is larger than it was formerly; hence more expensive instruments are required, greater cost is entailed, and increased Funds are needed. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by Messrs. Bosanquet, Salt, and Co., 73, Lombard-street, E.C.; and by the Secretary, at the Institution, 35 Finsbury-square.  
**JOHN WHITTINGTON, Secretary.**

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More than 3,000 poor women were attended last year in their hour of trial by first-rate physicians and midwives.  
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31, Finsbury-square, London.

## EPIPHANY, 1885.

Just ready, nonpareil 24mo, French morocco, red edges, 1s., and in other bindings, at all Booksellers',

## THE NUMBERED PRAYER-BOOK.

Prepared by Canon GEORGE VENABLES, Vicar of Great Yarmouth, and Rural Dean of Flegg.

This new edition of the Book of Common Prayer has been printed with consecutive numbers attached to each Prayer or Paragraph that requires them. A little consideration will, it is hoped, show why the numbering is rather more frequent in some parts of the Prayer-book than in other parts.  
The original idea is due to Canon George Venables, Vicar of Great Yarmouth, by whose direction the numbering has been carried out, and at whose charges 20,000 copies of the Prayer-book have been printed.

It affords many methods for teaching and for enabling people to use the Book of Common Prayer in Church, in Mission-rooms, on board a ship, or elsewhere with the least possible trouble. There can be no objection to announcing the number of a prayer or paragraph, which does not equally apply to the announcing of an Hymn (often of prayer) or of Praise to be equally addressed to God. The Book would be available as follows:—

I. Any Clergyman might, for a few Sundays wherever needful (and it is much more needful than many believe), announce the "number" of any Prayer or Paragraph next to be used. By doing so reverently, pausing a moment until he saw that the required portion was found, he would soon secure a habit of responding, because the people delight to do this generally, when they feel their Clergyman is in earnest.

In a few weeks it would be unnecessary to announce the numbers, except in a few instances—e.g., the Collect, the Psalms, Collect for Ember Days, &c. &c.

II. There are few churches in which the reference to one or two numbers would not be useful occasionally. Why should any one find fault with announcing the number of a prayer to be used? Is it not an equally solemn and important matter to sing an hymn, or to chant a Psalm, as to address God in prayer? But we do not hesitate to announce the number of hymn or Psalm!

III. A very useful plan would be to introduce the ancient custom of a board with grooves, into which words and figures can be inserted. Suppose the Service to be Christmas morning, the Prayer-book numbers (and supposed hymns) would be as follows:—

Hymn 60; Prayer-book 1 to 6; Psalms 313, 323, 333. After First Lesson, 7. After Second Lesson, 9, 39, 12 to 13; Collect 63; Prayer 14, 15; Hymn 79. Communion Office, 158 to 161; Collect, &c., 68; Creed 162; Hymn 83; Sermon. Offertory 163, 164, 167, 168 to 176, 178 to 181.

All this on a grooved board of about three or four rows, carefully arranged, would be a very great help to many. IV. A still better plan in towns and places where printing is readily managed would be to print strips of paper (suppose 5 x 2 inches), giving the numbers for morning on one side and Evensong on the other. On each occasion might be added some useful hint:

E.g.—The word "will" in the first line of the Athanasian Creed signifies "wish" or "desire." "Whosoever wishes or desires to be saved." Or, "The services last Sunday were not heartily taken up by the congregation. O, come let us sing unto the Lord, let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation." Or, I feel much encouraged to notice the reverent and earnest manner in which the congregation are trying to improve the services. Or, The hymn to-night after sermon ought to be sung very reverently and heartily. And so on. Immense good could be accomplished (under the Divine Blessing) in this way.

V. It is intended shortly to publish some Indices—(1) of Doctrines and Subjects mentioned in the Prayer-book. (2) of arrangements for Mission Services, Special Advent, Lent, and other Services, Family Prayer, Use with the Sick, &c. &c. &c.

It is believed and hoped that the hearty adoption and use of the "Numbered Prayer-book" will prove of very great service in many thousands of our parishes and churches.

Oxford: Printed at the UNIVERSITY PRESS.

London: HENRY FROWDE, Oxford University Press Warehouse, Amen-corner.

**ANTIQUE FURNITURE.—275.** Inlaid mahogany Knife-case, fitted with four Venetian liquor bottles, £3 3s. 233. 3ft. inlaid sandalwood Bureau, £3 15s. 235. Boulle Clock and Bracket, £12 10s. 238. 3ft. 6in. inlaid mahogany enclosed Washstand, £5 5s. 315. Lac-japan Cabinet, on stand, £6 15s. 325. Pair carved-gilt Candelabras, £19 10s. 333. Mahogany Chippendale Sofa, in calico, £10 10s. 334. Inlaid mahogany Knife-case, fitted for stationery, £2 2s. 343. Carved Elizabethan Armchair, £1 15s. 349. Mahogany Chippendale Coffee Table, £1 15s. 2ft. 6in. mahogany Bureau, £7 15s. 356. 3ft. 6in. mahogany Double Chest of Drawers, £10 10s. 369. Round and ornate Empire Clock, £10 10s. 376. Queen Anne Regulator Clock, £17 10s. 375. 2ft. 6in. mahogany Dressing Chest of Drawers, £4 377. 3ft. 6in. inlaid walnut Double Chest of Drawers, £11 10s. 381. 7ft. 4in. by 7ft. 9in. carved gilt-frame Chimney Glass, £19 10s. 396. Mahogany and gold-frame Dressing Glass, £2. 403. Inlaid mahogany Dressing Glass, £7 6d. 407. 3ft. 9in. mahogany Chippendale Double Chest of Drawers, £11 10s. 430. Mahogany Chippendale Hatstand, £3 10s. 440. 4ft. mahogany Chippendale Wardrobe, £13 10s. 442. 9ft. mahogany Wardrobe, £38 10s.—JOHN MILNE, 180, Great Portland-street (opposite Weymouth-street), London, W.

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**GEO. CROXTON, Secretary.**

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See "Times," 15th July, 1884.

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## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

**FRANCE.**—General Camponen on Saturday resigned his post as Minister of War, and has been succeeded by General Lewal. General Lewal is a scientific officer. His works on the art of war are highly spoken of, and during the last autumn manoeuvres the Seventeenth Army Corps, under his command, is reported to have astonished the military critics by its efficiency and smartness. On Saturday afternoon General Lewal was interviewed by a writer for the *Figaro*, and spoke with great frankness. He said:—"In the conversations I have had within the last few days with the President of the Council we came to a complete accord as to the necessity of decisive action. That being my own opinion, I accepted the War Office, which was offered to me, without enthusiasm, but also without misgivings. To my mind it is easy to terminate, honourably for our flag, the campaign we have commenced in Asia. The Government has given me full powers for the conduct of the operations. You are aware that I am no politician, but merely a soldier. I am passionately attached to my profession. I think there is room for benefiting the Army, and that will be my exclusive care. If people imagine that I intend to turn everything topsy-turvy at the War Office, they are greatly mistaken. No doubt I have some reforms in contemplation, and I shall endeavour to have them adopted by Parliament; but be persuaded that my intention is not to introduce revolution into the Army, but to perform useful work. I intend calling on the Chambers to vote without delay the military laws now before them, especially that for the unification of pay, a question first mooted by me in 1871."

Before leaving the War Office, General Camponen formally took leave of the heads of departments in the Ministry, and made them a speech, in the course of which he said:—"I leave office in consequence of a difference with my colleagues respecting their foreign policy. I have always been of opinion that the complete occupation of the delta of the Red River was sufficient to establish the influence of France in Tonquin on a solid basis. The Government is not a partisan of this limited occupation. It holds that we must extend our action to natural boundaries which are imperfectly known. It is prepared to make our installation at Formosa a permanent one. Finally, it is prepared to achieve peace with China by means of an expedition to the very heart of the empire, such expedition to be conducted under the responsibility of the Minister of War. The reserve which my position imposes upon me cannot prevent my holding the opinion that our position with regard to China did not render such a determination necessary. The internal state of France, the place which the events of 1870 have assigned to her in Europe, entail upon her great circumspection in the matter of foreign policy. But my colleagues are bolder men than I am. I part from them rather than divide my attention, which I wished to confine exclusively to the duties devolving upon me as Minister of War."

In addition to this speech, General Camponen, in the course of a conversation with M. Galli, of the *Evenement*, was even more explicit. He not only disapproved the policy of the Government with regard to China, but blamed M. Jules Ferry's foreign and colonial policy. He expressed his apprehension that M. Jules Ferry allowed himself to be deluded by Prince Bismarck. "For some years past," he said, "France has been used as a tool by Germany. The Chancellor has got up a quarrel between us and Spain, and then between us and Italy. He is now involving us in a quarrel with England. I have ever been of opinion that all we had to do was to keep quiet and prepare ourselves for fighting, not at the four corners of the globe, but in Europe, and you know against whom. It is with that object that our excellent army has been organised, and so organised that it cannot, without serious inconvenience, be dislocated to take part in distant expeditions." As regarded the foreign policy of M. Ferry, the General described it as *une politique trompeuse*; which placed France at the mercy of Germany, which Gambetta, were he now living, would strenuously oppose, and which General Camponen declined to be responsible for in any degree.

The trial of M<sup>me</sup>. Clovis Hugues for killing Morin was proceeded with in Paris on Thursday. Two adjournments took place, the second until 8.30. At two o'clock on Friday morning the jury, after a very short deliberation, acquitted M<sup>me</sup>. Hugues on both charges of murder and premeditation, but condemned her to pay 2,000*fr.* by way of indemnity to the father of the victim. There was a tremendous manifestation in her favour in the court, the auditory flocking round her and shaking her hands and embracing her. There was no demonstration outside, the crowd having dwindled away.

The death of Prince Radziwill is reported from Paris.

At a late hour on Wednesday night two brothers, named Ballerich, police-officers, broke into the editorial office of the *Cri du Peuple*, in Paris, and attacked two members of the staff with sword and pistol, wounding a M. Duc somewhat severely. One of the brothers was then shot down by M. Duc, and lies at the hospital of St. Louis in a dangerous state.

M<sup>me</sup>. Michel, mother of the famous Anarchist, died last week. Her daughter had been permitted to attend upon her during her last illness, but was not present at the funeral, which took place on Monday, and was made the occasion of an Anarchist demonstration, with red flags, &c., M. Rochefort acting as chief mourner, though as a matter of fact the deceased lady had no sympathy with the movement. Louise Michel's mind is said to be affected by her imprisonment, and strong demands are being made on the Government for her pardon. It is said that she now wishes to leave France.

**FRANCE AND CHINA.**—The French Government has chartered four steamers to convey troops to Tonquin. They proceeded to Toulon on Monday to embark stores and ammunition, and will next go to Algeria for the troops. According to a telegram received by the French War Office on Saturday, General Négrier routed 6,000 Chinese east of Chu. No details are given. On Monday a Hanoi telegram stated that the Chinese had again assumed the offensive with 12,000 men, but were attacked by General Négrier, who succeeded in penetrating into and driving them from their positions, which were de-

fended by forts with rows of batteries one above the other. Two batteries of Krupp guns, a quantity of rifles, ammunition, and provisions, together with the Chinese standards and convoys, fell into the hands of the French. On the Chinese side there were 800 killed and a considerable number wounded. The French loss in both engagements consisted of three officers slightly wounded, nineteen men killed and sixty-five wounded. The *Temps* says this is the beginning of fresh offensive action in Tonquin, General Briere de l'Isle having resolved to march on Langson without waiting for reinforcements.

**MADAGASCAR.**—The *Standard* correspondent writes from Tamatave on the 20th ult. that Vohemar had been occupied by the French, who had also, in conjunction with the Sakalavas, attacked the Hovas at Amboanio, some little distance to the south of Vohemar:—

"The French and their allies surrounded the position in the night unobserved by the Hovas, who kept a careless watch. The assault was made at sunrise, and the French report says that 250 of the Hovas were killed and a few taken prisoners. Two guns were also captured. The total number of the Hovas in the entrenchments is not given, but it is probable that but few escaped, and that, surrounded and surprised, all, save the few taken prisoners, were shot down. The French loss is said to have been very trifling (five killed and wounded)."

"The Sakalavas were commanded by the King of Nossi Mitaou, on the West Coast, who marched across the country to assist the French in their preconcerted attack on the Hova post. The French claim that there are now no Hovas anywhere on the coast between Cape Amber and Amboanio, and think that the effect of this victory may be to terrify the Hovas into an acceptance of their demands."

**ITALY.**—Mr. Errington has returned to Rome. The *Standard* correspondent learns from the Propaganda that his principal business at present is to treat upon several questions concerning the Roman Catholic missions in the English dependencies, in connection with the Berlin Conference.

The following letter has been addressed to Lord Granville by the Protestant Educational Institute:—"Protestant Educational Institute, 38, Parliament-street, Jan. 5, 1885. My Lords,—I am to draw your Lordships' attention to the following announcement which appears in the *Standard* of to-day: 'Rome, Sunday Night, Jan. 4.—Much satisfaction is expressed at the Vatican at the disposition of the English Government respecting the Catholic Missions, as manifested by Mr. Errington. I learn from the Propaganda that he brings from the English Ministry full powers to come to any accord with the Vatican which he may deem to be for the common advantage. He has had long interviews with Cardinal Simeoni, the Prefect of Propaganda, and Monsignore Jacobini, the Secretary of the Propaganda. Probably, he will shortly have a private audience of the Pope. No doubt this referred to Roman Catholic Missions in India. If there be any truth in the above announcement, I need not say that very grave Constitutional principles are involved, and I am to ask briefly the following question—Does Mr. Errington represent in any way the opinion or intentions of Her Majesty's Government with respect to certain contemplated changes in the organisation of the Church of Rome in India? It is unnecessary to represent to your Lordship that the Pope of Rome is not a Temporal Sovereign of any State, and that Her Majesty's Government, to take the lowest possible ground, has no more right to dictate or to interfere with or recognise any such arrangements, than to interfere with the arrangements of the Wesleyan Connexion, or the Church of Scotland, or the Church of England, or any other religious denomination with respect to the disposition of their missionaries or agents in India; and as to the full powers referred to for the common advantage (that is, if there be any meaning in those words, the advantage of England as well as of the Church of Rome), I am further to represent that any such interference on behalf of Her Majesty's Government would be disgraceful to the large majority of the people of England, unwise and impolitic towards the people of India, altogether inconsistent with the Constitution of the British Empire, and fraught with grave disaster to England as a Protestant nation, and to India. I do trust your Lordship will disclaim any foundation for the intimation to which I have taken the liberty of directing your Lordships' attention.—I have the honour to be, &c., G. R. BADENOCH, Secretary."

Prince Jérôme Bonaparte and his son left Rome on Wednesday morning for Naples, where Prince Louis, attended by M. Poignant, will embark for the East to-day (Saturday).

**GERMANY.**—The West African Conference re-assembled after its Christmas adjournment on Monday, and the committee discussed Sir E. Malet's slave trade motion which had been referred to it by the Conference at its last meeting. The motion was agreed to with an addition proposed by Mr. Kasson, the United States Minister, providing that the territories of the signatory Powers shall not serve as a market or a transit route for the slave-trade. On Tuesday the proposals made by Germany as to the annexation of territory were laid before the members of the Conference.

On Wednesday Dr. Busch presided in the absence of Count Hatzfeldt. The *Projet de Declaration* regarding the slave-trade was approved without a dissentient voice, and no other subject was discussed. The third point of the Conference programme, namely, that prescribing the formalities necessary to make future annexations on the coasts of Africa effective, was raised by the presentation of the German *Projet de Declaration* on the subject, but no debate took place as several of the plenipotentiaries wished to obtain further instructions. The German project consists of two sections only, and the general opinion is that the proposals are reasonable and not likely to entail a lengthened discussion. General Sanford's railway scheme is regarded as outside the scope of the Conference, as it relates to a commercial enterprise. It is stated that the cost of constructing the proposed railway between Stanley Pool and the Lower Congo would be £250,000, and would require a daily freight of 100 tons to pay 4 per cent.

The sixth protocol of the proceedings of the Conference has been published. It relates exclusively to

the question of the liquor traffic. Dr. Busch stated on behalf of Germany, at the sitting described in the protocol, that his Government could not support any project that would be detrimental or vexatious to the future interests of commerce, and that the proposed restrictions would render the decisions of the Conference respecting freedom of commerce illusory, should power be given to different States to exercise control over the trade of others. Count Kapnist, the Russian delegate, proposed the establishment of a meteorological station in the Congo Basin, and the proposition was approved. With regard to Mr. Kasson's neutralisation scheme Count de Launay, the Italian Plenipotentiary, besides proposing that the Powers should renounce all idea of extending their military action to the Congo basin, caused a clause to be inserted proposing that recourse should be had to the mediation of friendly Powers before any appeal should be made to arms. Mr. Kasson stated the object of the proposition was practical and not theoretical—namely, to assure the security of future commercial enterprises.

The rumours of an intended Monarchical form of Government for the Congo State continue. Besides Prince Henry of Prussia some member of the Belgian Royal Family is proposed as King. The *Berlin National Zeitung* is informed that King Leopold's wish is to see one of the descendants of his father, King Leopold I., placed at the head of the Congo State. It is proposed that the seat of the Supreme Government shall be at Brussels, and that a Council composed of subjects of different nations shall carry on the business of the State.

The *Times* correspondent says that the terms of the German declaration as to the forms to be observed in effective occupations on African coasts for the future are as follow:—

"(1) The Power which shall at any future time take possession of a territory or place on the coasts of Africa situated outside its actual possessions, or which shall assume the protection thereof, shall accompany the act in question by a simultaneous notification, addressed to the other Powers represented in the present Conference, in order to enable them to recognise this (taking possession) as effective, or to advance any claims which they may have of their own. (2) The said Powers recognise the obligation to establish and maintain in the territories or places occupied, or taken under their protection, a jurisdiction sufficient to secure the observance of peace, as well as respect for acquired rights, and as the case may be, for the conditions under which freedom of trade and of transit shall have previously been guaranteed. The Governments of the undersigned shall bring this Declaration to the knowledge of the States which have not been invited to take part in the Conference, and invite them to adhere to it."

The Empress has contributed £10 towards a Munich window to be erected in All Saints' Church, Baden-Baden, in memory of the Duke of Albany. The Rev. T. Archibald White, chaplain at Baden-Baden, writes to the *Guardian*:—

"There was an interesting children's service in the German Evangelical Church of this town on Christmas Eve. It commenced at four o'clock in the afternoon and lasted an hour. A Christmas-tree, about 40ft. high, was planted at the entrance to the chancel and amply lighted with white candles. The body of the church was filled with children who sang Christmas carols very sweetly. One of the clergy read between the singing a short history of the nativity of our Lord, together with the prophetic intimations and the lessons it teaches. Certain selected scholars recited appropriate poems, to the delight of their parents and friends. There was nothing to object to in this simple service, and it must have been particularly cheering to children of poor homes."

During Thursday's debate in the Reichstag, Prince von Bismarck declared that Germany was a nation of farmers, and required that her corn duties should be raised, a view entertained in common with himself by all the agriculturists in the country.

**AUSTRIA.**—Prince Adolphe Auersperg, formerly Cisleithan Prime Minister, died suddenly at his country seat, near Salzburg, on Monday night. The Prince, who was in his sixty-fourth year, was one of the leaders of the Liberal Constitutional party, and held office as Premier from November, 1871, till February, 1879, when he was succeeded by Count Taaffe, at the head of the present reactionary Cabinet. He did not rank as a statesman of transcendent merit, but he was trusted by his party as a politician of great common-sense and upright character. As such he enjoyed also the esteem of his opponents, and his loss is generally regretted in Austria.

**BELGIUM.**—At the New Year's Day reception the Chief of the Brussels Civic Guard assured the King and Queen of the absolute devotion of that body. This is considered as a formal protest of the bourgeoisie against the late Republican propaganda.

**SPAIN.**—Fresh shocks of earthquake have been felt in several places in the southern provinces of Spain, including Loja, Alhama, and Velez Malaga, fissures being made in the ground. The Government delegates sent to the province of Granada to distribute relief report terrible scenes in the smaller towns. At the village of Doreal most of the houses were half destroyed, ten bodies remaining unburied. Albuñuelas, a small town of 2,000 inhabitants, presented an appalling scene of wreck. Half of the dwellings were completely in ruins, as well as the Townhall, the churches, and the old convent. In a temporary ambulance there were sixty wounded persons. The survivors state that the mayor and several wealthy residents are among the victims, who are supposed to number several hundreds. The body of the rector of the parish was recognised by his brother. The wife of the mayor remained buried up to her waist in the debris for eighteen hours. Many persons were rescued alive after being partly buried for twenty-six hours, some being half crazed with fright. Over 1,500 houses were destroyed, and more than 300 dead have already been discovered. It is calculated that 10,000 head of cattle were killed. Besides this, five churches, five convents and hospitals, the Townhall, the prisons, clubs, and theatre were destroyed. Religious services are now being held in the public square, the altar being set up in a carriage. Seven thousand persons are encamped in the fields. The authorities are of opinion that in the whole southern province together 60,000 people will have to be

provided for by Government or national charity. The Pope has contributed £1,600 to the relief fund.

The *Standard* correspondent, writing Granada, says:—

"By the later shocks an immense church at Antiquera, and almost all the houses which remained standing there and at Alhama, have been levelled to the ground; but the loss of life has been smaller than might have been expected, as most of the population had already forsaken the towns and had taken refuge in the fields. In the streets, squares, and gardens of Granada great fires blazed, and around them the greater part of the population—men, women, and children—were assembled, for the renewal of the earthquake shocks on the afternoon of the 30th completed the panic caused by the former shocks, and drove even the most courageous from the houses. Most of the poor people have no sort of shelter, and appear too paralysed by cold and terror even to raise such simple structures with blankets and a few sticks as are within the reach of the most poverty-stricken, but crouch round the fires, the children pressed in their mothers' arms. Some few have raised rough shelters; others, more fortunate, lie in straw in carts or carriages, and the wealthier inhabitants have got up a few tents, and have taken up their abode there, getting what warmth they may from great fires blazing near the entrances to the tents. At present the panic appears to have settled down into a dull despair. Granada is a great place for churches, and numerous processions, with crosses, banners, and lighted tapers, are moving about the streets in the frosty air. The people as they pass flock to the side, kneel, and pray bareheaded. The women sob and mourn, the men mutter their prayers, and, amid the deep chanting of the priests, the wails of the babes, half-perished with cold, rise on the air. All the churches are open, and prayers will be said continuously all night. The weather continues bitterly cold."

At Malaga on Christmas evening (says a correspondent of the *Daily News*), at five minutes to nine—

"A slight movement of the earth was felt, followed by a loud rumbling noise, such as that of a heavy goods train, which lasted from ten to twelve seconds, and then every house and building in the town was shaken to its foundations. The movement was felt in a north-north-west to south-south-east direction, the motion being remarked as undulating. At eleven o'clock another less severe shock in the same direction was felt, and another more severe than the second at 2.30, when it was seriously thought that a great calamity was impending. During the remainder of the night, until sunrise, the earth continued to tremble, as many as eight or ten shocks, of more or less force, having been observed, all in the one direction and of the same undulating character. An outbreak of terror followed the first shock. Mothers screamed for their children, ladies and girls fainted and had hysterical fits, and in a few seconds the whole population was in the streets. Once there the universal question was where to find shelter and safety for the night. All the cabs, omnibuses, private carriages, railway carriages, vans, and covered carts were put into requisition, and whole families lodged therein; while hundreds of people encamped on the Alameda, squares, the bed of the Guadalmedina river—fortunately dry at this season—and other open spaces. In some cases the most courageous returned to the thresholds of their houses, and sat in the halls and doorways; but no one thought of retiring to rest until daylight, which was ushered in by a drizzling rain. This rain continued at intervals during the whole of the 26th. At noon on that day another slight shock was felt, and another at 3 p.m. A severe rainstorm occurred at about 5 p.m., with a light north-easterly wind, which changed at 2 a.m. to a strong southerly gale. So universally did the idea prevail that more serious shocks would be repeated precisely after twenty-four hours from the first, that, notwithstanding the heavy rainfall, the Alameda and other open spaces were crowded as in the previous night. As much as £3 4s. was paid for one carriage without horses for the night, and but for the heavy rain the whole of the population would doubtless have spent the night in the streets. In the midst of the rain, as the dreaded twenty-four hours approached, the image of the patroness of Malaga, Our Lady of Victories, was carried in solemn procession, headed by the Bishop, from its church to the cathedral, a distance of about one mile, amidst the prayers and devout demonstrations of the people. The loss of life in the town of Malaga is fortunately confined to four persons—one lady who was killed by a falling tile, another who died from fright, one man and a boy who were killed by a falling wall. The wounded, however, are numerous. The damage to houses, churches, and other buildings has been roughly estimated at £120,000. A large number of houses have been ordered to be vacated by the authorities, who consider them unsafe."

The King of Spain has increased his personal subscription to the earthquake fund to £4,000. The Ministers have each given £40. The German Emperor has also given a handsome subscription.

**INDIA.**—The damage done in Pondicherry by the recent storms is said to be enough to absorb the entire revenue of French India for a whole year. The water rose to the altar in the church of the village of Villenoor, and 300 persons were obliged to take refuge in the steeple of the village pagoda. Fifty-three lives were lost by the bursting forth of the Red Hill Lakes, in Madras, while 222 houses were swept away, 730 were injured, and 962 head of cattle were lost. The damage occasioned is estimated at 2,29,032 rupees.

**TURKEY.**—The Ecumenical Patriarch has received a telegram from the Metropolitan of Ceres stating that, at an extraordinary meeting of delegates of the inhabitants of that town, an address had been adopted denying the reports as to the state of affairs in Macedonia. The Turkish circular to the Powers sets forth a declaration signed by several Greek Bishops denying the reports. On Friday the Orthodox Bishop of Dibra stated positively that the stories on the subject of the atrocities in Macedonia were greatly exaggerated. He greatly praised the administration of Osman Pasha, and stated that during the past year no ransom whatever had been paid in these districts by the captives of brigands.

Major Trotter, the Military Attaché to the British



Embassy in Constantinople, who arrived at Salonica about a fortnight ago to investigate and report upon the condition of affairs in Macedonia, has already visited Caterina, Carafria, Vodina, Ostrova, and Banitz. At Monastir, Mr. Blunt, the Consul-General, has placed at Major Trotter's disposal Mr. Guinness, his assistant, and the consular cavass. The Ottoman commander-in-chief in the district, Hassan Pacha, is still on the Bulgarian frontier, and Ghalib Pacha, the Governor-General, is making a tour of inspection in Keupruli and the other districts within his jurisdiction. Before starting he sent a circular to the provincial governors alluding to the publication in foreign newspapers of reports of Turkish outrages upon Bulgarians, and enjoining them to take special measures to maintain order.

**EGYPT.**—The Khedive entertained Lord Ripon, Sir E. Baring, and the principal officials at dinner on Wednesday. Fifty-two covers were laid.

A telegram from Souakim states that Osman Digna having played false with the Sheikh of the Beni Amer, that tribe and the Rasheda tribe have joined together against him. A battle is shortly expected.

Raz Aloula, General of King John of Abyssinia, has commenced a campaign against the Habbab tribe, who have lately attacked and pillaged the villages in the neighbourhood of Massowah.

The *Behera* has arrived at Cairo with Colonel Taylor, Colonel Chesney, Lieutenants Gore, Fowle, and Stewart, and forty-eight men invalided from Upper Egypt. Major Robinson, of the West Kent Regiment, has died at Wady Halfa.

General Stephenson has returned to Cairo from Souakim.

In view of the want of agreement between England and France on Egyptian affairs, M. de Giers, the Russian Chancellor, favours, it is said, the formation of a mixed Commission to examine the British and the French proposals and report thereon to the Powers.

The projected mission of Hassan Fehmi Pacha to London and the *rapprochement* between Turkey and England are highly approved of by Turkish public opinion.

The *Daily Telegraph* says:—"Whatever may be the impressions in European capitals, we believe we are correct in stating that there is no valid ground for the report that it will be proposed to hold a Conference on Egyptian affairs in Paris. The answer of the French Government to the proposals of our Cabinet will probably reach London about the 14th of the present month."

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* states that all the reports concerning the solution of the Egyptian financial question by another Conference meeting at Paris are either premature or absolutely incorrect. It is true, the correspondent adds, that Prince Bismarck still maintains that the Egyptian question can only be treated on an international basis, but nothing so definite as the calling of a Conference has yet been discussed, nor can it be decided till the Congo Conference, now sitting, has concluded its labours. In any case a Conference proper is not intended.

Lord Lyons had an interview with M. Ferry on Monday afternoon, and the *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent says it is believed that the eternal Egyptian question is again under discussion. "It may readily," he adds, "be imagined that the English Cabinet is particularly anxious to come to some private arrangement with France on the matter. All the other Powers have distinctly given *carte blanche* to France to act for them; France is thus the *porte-voix* of Europe, and it may be taken for granted that whatever arrangement may be arrived at between England and France will be subscribed to by the other signatory Powers. If the English Cabinet is in a worse position than it was any time during the past two years the Ministers have only themselves to thank for the inevitable results of their hand-to-mouth policy, and they must now perforce pass under the Caudine Forks of French exactions. If, on the other hand, the English Government fail to come to terms with France, there is absolutely no other course open than boldly to assume the administration of Egypt with all its widening responsibilities. I hear that England repudiates the idea of another Conference, and this repugnance is only natural, seeing that she would infallibly find herself at the Council-board in a minority of one, or at most two."

At a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on Monday night, Mr. John M. Cook, speaking of the Soudan expedition, said that at the commencement they were met by the astonishing fact that nobody knew anything of the portion of the Nile to be traversed between Wady Halfa and Dongola. Having finished the difficult part of his work in connection with the campaign, he decided to go himself to Dongola and see what the real obstacles to navigation were. For a distance of 109 miles the river was simply a succession of cataracts and rapids and rocks covered with Nile water. He travelled under the most favourable circumstances, his boat being only 24 feet long, 6 ft. 6 in. beam, and drawing but 20 inches of water. Nevertheless, at five different points he had 170 men to pull him through the cataracts, and at one point he had 75 Dongolese men in addition. That would give them some idea of what the troops with their whaleboats had to encounter. With all the hard work, however, there had been hardly a case of serious illness among the soldiers. He had at first expressed the opinion that the whalers were unnecessary, and also that the Egyptian boatmen would be equal to the task of navigation without employing the Canadian voyageurs. He had, however, been obliged to modify that opinion, and he was now perfectly certain that the whalers could not have been dispensed with, and that the Canadians by their services had amply repaid the cost of bringing them over the Atlantic.

Intelligence from the United States is to the effect that a Bill will be submitted to Congress advocating an increase of 20 per cent. in Customs tariffs with countries that have imposed differential duties on American produce.

A British protectorate has been proclaimed over the whole coast of Pondoland. The declaration respecting Pondoland now makes the whole of the coast-line between St. Lucia Bay and the Cape Colony subject to British jurisdiction. The extent of Pondoland itself is about 100 miles long by between 50 and

60 broad. Its population numbers about 200,000 souls, under the chief Umquikela, who has for some time been in communication with the British Government respecting its assumption of control over St. John's River. The act of our Government does not involve any occupation of the country or deposition of its native Governor, but simply means the protection of its coast so as to preclude the possibility of any foreign State acquiring country and authority between the Cape and Natal.

The following interesting episode was chronicled in the *New Zealand Herald* received by the last mail:—"Consequent upon the decision of the Government to construct the North Island Trunk Railway the Government introduced a Bill prohibiting all dealing with the natives for land along the line. During nearly its whole length the line runs through land owned by natives, and there is no doubt that, but for the action taken by the Government, claims to much of the land would have been established by Europeans and embarrassing complications would have arisen. There were a number of other provisions in the Bill in regard to native lands. The great chief of the Ngatimanipoto tribe, Wahanui, has been in Wellington during the Session. His people are the owners of the greatest part of the district known as the King Country. He asked to be heard at the bar of the House in regard to the Bill, and this was agreed to. Wahanui made a most effective speech, and members were greatly impressed. He implored them to save the Maoris from being subjected to the curse of intoxicating liquors. The appearance of Wahanui at the bar of the House of Representatives and at that of the Legislative Council is regarded as showing that the last symptom of hostility of the natives to the Europeans and their last pretence of any independent authority have passed away. In consequence of Wahanui's appeal, Ministers withdrew all the clauses excepting those which prevent dealings between Europeans and natives for land along the line." It is pleasing to note that the civilisation of the natives is so far advanced. The natives of the King Country, or Kingites, as they are called, are the last ones who showed any decided hostility to the colonists, and now, apparently, that is at an end. The North Island will now have the opportunity of advancing very rapidly, and will soon vie with the South Island in every way.

### THE NILE EXPEDITION.

General Stewart, with the mounted infantry and a convoy of baggage camels, returned to camp on Monday, bringing with him six prisoners, who were taken wearing the Mahdi's uniform. During the night of their capture several tore off their distinctive dresses, and stamped on them as a sign of contempt for the Mahdi's service. From the accounts of these prisoners it seems that the Mahdi's force is determined to make a stand near Metemneh, where earthworks are thrown up; but that decidedly not more than 5,000 rebels are gathered there, probably even less.

Lord Wolseley on Wednesday telegraphed that a strong convoy was then leaving Korti for Gakdul, and that General Stewart was to start with another on Thursday for Metemneh, a place situated on the Nile opposite Shendi, which will probably be reached on the 15th inst. Should there be a steamer there on that date General Stewart will communicate with Gordon without delay.

The correspondent of the *Morning Post* gives a detailed account of Sir Herbert Stewart's march from Korti to Gakdul, which amounted to 100 miles, and was accomplished in sixty-four hours. He says:—

"The Hussars and Mounted Infantry have captured fourteen prisoners; one was taken prisoner on New Year's Day, and thirteen during the ensuing night and early morning. They evidently belonged to some reinforcements for the Mahdi, as they were clothed in a uniform. All along the route trees and grass are abundant everywhere, and at the places where the prisoners were captured by the Hussars and Mounted Infantry there is a growth of thick bush.

"The General's rapid march appeared to have been a thing of which the Arabs had never dreamed, and the people were absolutely surprised by it, as was plainly to be seen by the astonishment displayed by all we met on the road. It was evident that the people had known nothing of it beforehand. In one place Major Kitchener, with a company of the Mounted Infantry, came round a corner on eight of the Mahdi's men, who were sauntering along in the most leisurely style.

"The wells at Hambok and at Howeyat are not sufficient at present for a large body of troops. At Gakdul there is a splendid reservoir. The wells at Abu Halfa, which are three and a-half miles from the track, at a point ninety miles from Ambukol—that is to say, ten miles behind us here—were inspected, and the supply there was reported to be plentiful.

"The Hussars did admirable service in scouting, especially along the hill sides, and their horses are in excellent condition.

"The Guards, Marines, Engineers, and the Field Hospital, with Major Kitchener and a few Hussars, remain at Gakdul, which is protected by two block-houses, one being placed on the summit of each side of the gorge. The main body of the troops is entrenched on the summit of the hill. No natives have been seen here, except a few who fled as we approached the post.

"The spirit of the men as displayed, notwithstanding the extreme fatigue of the long marching, is magnificent. The halts on the march did not afford them much rest, owing to the labour entailed by the unloading and subsequent reloading of the camels.

"The prisoners report that General Gordon is well, and that he has steamers at Metemneh."

Among the prisoners captured was a robber sheikh, for whose head the Mudi of Dongola had long ago offered a reward of a thousand dollars. A small convoy of camels laden with dates for the Mahdi was also captured.

The *Daily Chronicle's* representative with General Earle's force, telegraphing under date Hamdab, Sunday morning, says:—"The South Staffordshire arrived here safely on Saturday at noon, after a very smart passage. We had been led to suppose that we should have a stiff piece of work before us at the Gerendid Cataract. The work was not, however, nearly so hard as we had expected. The cataract was

much easier than several that we passed on our way to Korti." Colonel Butler, who returned from Hamdab on Friday, has expressed his emphatic conviction that General Earle's flotilla will be able to reach Berber in twenty-five days at the latest from the start, inclusive of the delay which will be inevitable to permit of the punishment of the Monassir tribe.

The special correspondent of the *Standard*, who accompanied General Stewart's column on its march to Gakdul, which is about a hundred miles from Korti, writes:—

"The march of the column has been in every way a great success. We arrived at Gakdul on Friday morning at a quarter to seven—a really wonderful performance—the march having occupied only sixty-five hours. There were no casualties of any kind on the road. The men worked capitally, although they were almost without sleep from the time we marched out of camp to our arrival at Gakdul. An unlimited supply of good water was found at that place; but there was but a very small quantity to be obtained upon the road, and the camels were not watered till they reached Gakdul. We captured on the way ten prisoners, some of whom were in the Mahdi's uniform. They were caught near the first wells on the way up beyond the spot where we are now resting. They fired a few shots from the Remington rifles with which they are armed, but surrendered on being overtaken and surrounded by the cavalry. On reaching Gakdul a very strong natural position was found, close to the water, and the Guards and Marines, who were to remain behind, at once set to to fortify it. In their hands it will be able to resist an attack by any number of the enemy. A few camels have given out on the way, but as a whole they have stood the long and fatiguing journey wonderfully well. We saw no flocks or herds upon the journey."

Telegraphing on Sunday afternoon, the correspondent of the *Daily News* at Korti says:—

"From a special source, hitherto trustworthy, I learn that the Mahdi has withdrawn his forces from before Omderman since the recent attacks on that stronghold, and is now concentrated near Metemneh, with the intention of waiting the arrival of the British column there, and swooping down on it when the men are exhausted by their long march. The rebels are said to number 25,000 there, but some allowance must be made for Oriental hyperbole. My messenger reports that 500 Arabs, under the uncle of Saleh Bey, have been sent to the Mahdi to intercept the supplies brought to our force by the Kabbabish traders. Twenty families, with much cattle and other produce, got through safely and arrived at Ambukol to-day; but others were stopped by the rebels, and it is thought no more will be allowed to pass by the Bahuda route. This hostile band is said to be only five days' march from here. Merchants report that up the river, close to Abuegli, the enemy is strongly entrenched on a high bank above a narrow ravine. The works are occupied by 8,000 men, under the Emir of Berber."

The *Standard's* correspondent sends the following information about the prisoners who were captured in the desert by the Hussars:—

"One of the prisoners is a notorious robber chief. He remains in custody with Major Kitchener at Gakdul. His wife was also captured. The man will be a most useful acquisition to the Intelligence Department, as he knows every path and track across the desert, with the wells, places where there is grazing for the camels, and other particulars. He is also said to know a good deal about the following of the Mahdi. The other prisoners taken at the same time, at once, when they found that they were surrounded and escape impossible, took off the Mahdi's uniform and spat upon it, to show that they only wore it on compulsion. They said that they would never have joined the Mahdi had they known that the English were so near. This, of course, need not be implicitly believed, and had they come upon a solitary scout instead of a party of cavalry they would probably not have been so lukewarm in the Mahdi's cause.

"The men have since their arrival here been closely interrogated by the officers of the Intelligence Department. Their reports—which must, of course, be taken with some reserve—are that Metemneh is occupied in strength by the Mahdi's army. Some put the force there at 2,000 men; others say that there are 5,000. The rebels have thrown up an entrenchment, and are prepared to receive us. They were not, however, anticipating our march across the desert, and the prisoners admit that the appearance of our troops took them completely by surprise, and that they had no anticipation whatever of meeting us on the way. The reports of the prisoners caused great regret among the troops of General Stewart's column that they were not in a position to push straight through to Metemneh, where they would have taken the Mahdi's forces completely by surprise. The prisoners assert that as lately as a fortnight ago General Gordon's steamers went down the river in the direction of Berber, and returned with supplies to Khartoum. This is most important, as, unless something intervenes before we reach Metemneh, we shall on our arrival there be able to open communications at once with General Gordon by means of his steamers, and send him a reinforcement of troops should he require it. The prisoners admit that the whole of the population to the south are now favourable to the Mahdi."

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, telegraphing last night, says:—

"A native report, doubly confirmed, declares that the Gakdul wells were in the hands of a hostile band a few days before General Stewart's dash on them, and the main body only deserted the post hurriedly when they heard that the British column had been seen advancing. They then dispersed, mostly southward and westward. The rebel spearmen were seen by one of my informants on the hills, watching from a distance the movements of our troops about sunset on Friday. No attempt, however, was made to molest the force now holding Gakdul, from which a despatch has arrived reporting all well.

The light section of the Camel Corps left Korti on Wednesday for Gakdul Wells, escorting a large convoy of supplies, and on Thursday Brigadier-General Stewart, with a large convoy, a squadron of the 19th Hussars, the heavy section of the Camel Corps, the Mounted Infantry, the Royal Sussex

Regiment, and the Naval Brigade, both the latter mounted on camels, left for the same place. On their arrival the Sussex Regiment will be left to hold the wells, and the Guards and the whole of the remainder of the force will continue the march to Metemneh.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Debbeh on December 15, says:—

"To get your ordinary camel-driver to start from an Arab town at early morning is a matter of much difficulty. He does not condescend to make excuses for delay, but he delays all the same. When once on the way, however, with nothing but squalid villages wherein to exercise his genius for gossip, or display his mastery of the art of postponement, he will move when you like, continue going on as long as it suits your convenience, and stop where you please, always, however, having a preference for some place where he can hold communication with his kind. Knowing this peculiarity of his, one tries to steal a march on him whenever practicable, by making him move about half a day before there would otherwise be any absolute necessity for it. If his disinclination to get away at daybreak arose from a predilection for night marches, I should fully sympathise with him; for, though camels can only be got along at a foot pace, or something less, during semi-darkness when there is no moon, or when the stars, bright as they are in this clear atmosphere, only cast a faint light across the desert track, one travels in perfect comfort.

"Leaving Dongola at four o'clock in the afternoon, we had got clear of cultivated country long before the crimson after-glow had faded in the west, and at least twelve miles had been covered before it became necessary to think of bivouacking for a few hours. This we did under the ruined walls of a deserted village, which at one time must have been of some importance, though now it is apparently inhabited by only one family, and all but a narrow plot of the level tract round about is left uncultivated. Such desolate places one sees frequently in this country, and they have mostly been forsaken, not because the fertilising Nile has changed its course or the soil become exhausted, but because the villagers could no longer afford to pay the severe tax on industry exacted by insatiable governors of the province. Sleeping only until the crescent moon was high enough to light us on our way once more, we managed to get two good hours of marching before daybreak. We could not even then see the faint tracks that camel caravans make on the hard sand, but the Southern Cross low on the horizon was a sufficiently good guide for the course we were going. Seen in the chill dawn, there was a stern picturesqueness about the square fortress of Hannak, set on a rugged rock by the riverside with its two massive towers rising at opposite angles against the amber sky. Nothing but broken walls, ruined huts, and tombs surround it. Judging by these monuments, one would say Hannak must have been the burial-place of at least three hundred generations of sheikhs, and it is still evidently held in honour as a resting-place of the Kabbabish tribes, for among many memorials that bear unmistakable traces of antiquity are others quite recently erected. Some are raised step above step like incipient pyramids that have never arrived at completion. Many are more pretentious in form, but the majority have the simple beehive outline from which the minarets of Eastern mosques seem to have been developed. On one of these the mud had scarcely dried, and a red flag was flying at the entrance to denote that presents in kind or money—all known by the familiar term 'backsheesh'—might still be laid there by the faithful as a means of ensuring the deceased sheikh a pleasant reception in paradise. How these substantial offers follow him there is a mystery; at all events they are seen no more by those who place them at the shrine, where a faithful servitor remains on duty night and day. Many of the tombs were shaded by wide-spreading acacia trees, of which the sapless trunks were bent with the weight of years, yet possessed a peculiar property of self-perpetuation. Wherever the old wood touched ground it threw out young roots and branches, so that from one decayed stem another sturdy tree seemed to spring. From Hannak onwards there was for many miles only a narrow strip of cultivation along the bank, but even there the fertile soil is never allowed to lie fallow. Dhura had been gathered a week or two ago, and among the dry stalks French beans were already growing luxuriantly, or where the ground had been completely cleared of all stubble, green blades of wheat were beginning to appear. Above these bright patches larks were blithely warbling the only sustained melody that one hears from a bird's throat in Nubia. Now and then there are heard snatches of song something like the notes of a blackbird, but they always stop suddenly, as if a lesson had only been half learned.

"That afternoon we passed Handak, a prosperous, well-built town, standing on a commanding hill of sandstone, and surrounded by strong walls that should be a sufficient protection from the raids of wandering Arabs, whether they come by land or water. In these troublous times such strongholds are not to be lightly esteemed, for the inhabitants of towns are mostly either Egyptian officials or alien merchants, to whom the warlike Kabbabish, for all their apparent friendliness, have something more than a passive dislike. Towards Englishmen, however, the natives show nothing but extreme courtesy. I met, passed, or was passed by dozens of these handsome, fierce, and native-looking shepherd-warriors, all armed with formidable spears, which one may be sure they know well the use of. In every case they gave me cheery greeting, and eyed me with more curiosity than hostility. Before nightfall we reached Shabatut, where the Commissariat Store and Remount Depot are left with but a small detachment of infantry to guard them. Men of the Camel Corps, under Sir Herbert Stewart's command, had built a small blockhouse before leaving, and surrounded that by a parapet and deep trench, in front of which they had formed a zariba, or breastwork of mimosa bushes. So fortified, the blockhouse might be successfully defended by a score of riflemen against tremendous odds; and so long as there will be any need of holding it British troops will frequently be passing either up the river or along the banks. That night we bivouacked, and slept securely enough under the palms. If there had been any reason to doubt the friendliness of natives, we should not have been much disturbed by doubts or alarms, for three troops of the 19th Hussars were lying on the sands of the



desert opposite, and there were plenty of nuggars for them to cross in had the need arisen. Not so much could be said for our next halting-place, which was a village of simple straw huts set on an arid hillside with at least three miles of luxuriantly-cultivated plain between it and the river. We reached this spot about sunset, after a weary march, most of which had been across hot sands. The Arabs received us very kindly, gave me the shelter of the only mud wall their village boasted, and the women went off at once to bring us water and fresh milk. Just after halting I saw outlined against the red western sky some camels which I fancied must belong to a brother correspondent who was following me, and I thereupon commenced signalling to the riders. They turned towards me, and then I discovered they were half-a-dozen Kabbabish Arabs, who, waving a friendly answer to my signals, dismounted about two hundred yards off, where they lay down to rest for the night. The near neighbourhood of these men disturbed my repose much less than did some festivities in which the villagers began to indulge at nightfall. Some person of note had taken to himself a bride, and the monotonous notes of the tum-tum, accompanied by a chorus that had scarcely more variety in it, did not cease for hours. Fortunately I had a light and a book wherewith I was enabled to while away the period of enforced sleeplessness. When day broke my friends the Kabbabish had disappeared.

"Next day, though still following the desert, we scarcely once got far away from broad fields where either the tall dhura was still standing or wheat had taken its place. Sometimes our way wended through dwarf forests of sweet-smelling tundra bushes, at others under groves of shadowy acacias, amid which nestled the straw huts of Arab villagers, all of whom seemed prosperous enough, though they do not trouble to hide the shapeliness of their limbs by overmuch raiment, and the women freely display their bright eyes and white teeth without any modest pretence of veiling those charms from the gaze of a stranger. In the wilder and less cultivated spots we found huts hidden in circles of a dense shrub that formed a natural zariba for the protection of goats and sheep from the midnight raid of jackals. This shrub, which looks at a distance like trailing traveller's joy, is apparently a species of privet, growing sometimes to the height of ten or twelve feet. My camel-driver called it by a name that sounded like *Was'n*, but my knowledge either of Arabic or botany is not enough to enable me to identify the plant by that name. Every now and again we came within sight of some broad reach of the Nile where could be seen the white sails of English boats. At noon we passed opposite the fortified height of Old Dongola. Broad fields of dhura lay between our path and it. There were long avenues of acacias, green as elm trees in a Thames valley, fringing the bank. Through their branches one could see the gleam of water; and the grey castle rising on its sandstone hill high above all somehow reminded me very much of Windsor Castle. Long before sunset we were once more bivouacking beside British troops at Debbeh, not half a mile from where the Mudirs had their fierce battle with the rebels a few months ago. Looking at the fertile fields and peaceful villages now, it is difficult to imagine that such things could have happened so recently. Appearances of this kind are, however, deceptive. Only a few days before my arrival here one of the Mahdi's spies had been caught and killed in a village close at hand, where his head may still be seen on a pole above the waving grain."

## IRELAND.

The Limerick Corporation having asked that the duty of protecting that city at night may be transferred to the Royal Irish Constabulary, the Lord Lieutenant has offered to appoint a Commission as a preliminary to proposing an Act of Parliament next session to enable the request to be complied with.

The second convention for the selection of a candidate for the representation of Tipperary assembled on Wednesday afternoon at St. Patrick's College, Thurles. Mr. Parnell, with Mr. O'Brien, M.P., Mr. Mayne, M.P., and Mr. Harrington, M.P., came down by the morning train from Dublin, and drove to the residence of the Archbishop of Cashel, where Mr. O'Ryan, who was chosen at the first conference, in opposition to Mr. J. O'Connor, Mr. Parnell's nominee, subsequently joined them. A private conference took place, the result of which was that Mr. O'Ryan agreed to withdraw his candidature, and to leave the selection of a candidate with the conference, which subsequently met, and unanimously adopted Mr. O'Connor as the candidate. Mr. Parnell made a statement setting forth the reasons for the course he had taken, and why Mr. O'Connor had been recommended to the constituency.

Mr. Healy, M.P., was on Tuesday met at Carrickmacross by his constituents, and presented with a testimonial in recognition of his services to the Irish cause. Mr. Healy, who was accompanied by Messrs. Sullivan, M.P., O'Brien, M.P., and Harrington, M.P., was met at the station by a deputation consisting of representatives of the town and the local boards. A meeting was then held, and was largely attended, those present including contingents from Meath, Louth, Armagh, and the different parishes of Monaghan. Several addresses were read, and Mr. Healy was presented with a cheque for £1,000. Mr. Healy responded, and the meeting was also addressed by Messrs. Sullivan, O'Brien, and Harrington. A banquet was subsequently held and speeches delivered by Messrs. Healy and Sullivan, both of whom spoke in high terms of the prospect of the Irish cause. Mr. Healy referred to the split in Tipperary, and said that no recruit had a right to be nominated unless he had the sanction of the leader whom he was to serve. Mr. Hamilton, R.M., a number of detectives, and about fifty policemen were in attendance at the proceedings.

Writs were issued on Thursday, at the suit of several residents of Sackville-street, against the Lord Mayor and certain members of the Corporation notifying an application for an injunction to restrain the defendants from carrying into effect a resolution adopted by the Town Council to change the name of Sackville-street. A memorial presented to the Corporation against the proposed change bore the signatures of nearly all the residents. The plaintiffs submit that, under the circumstances, the defendants have no power to alter the name of Sackville-street

contrary to the wishes of the inhabitants and owners of property therein, and that even assuming that the Corporation possess a discretionary power in a proper case to alter the name of a street for purposes of municipal convenience, still that they can possess or exercise no such power for political purposes. The plaintiffs believe that unless the defendants are restrained by law they will change the name of the street, and they further say that such change would cause them and other owners of business houses therein the very greatest inconvenience and considerable injury and loss in their respective businesses.

## POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday in Downing-street. The Ministers present were—The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Carlingford, Sir William Harcourt, Earl Granville, the Earl of Derby, the Marquis of Hartington, the Earl of Kimberley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Northbrook, the Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, and the Right Hon. J. Chamberlain.

Writing from Paris on the 5th inst., acknowledging copies of resolutions passed at a recent Conservative meeting in Glasgow, Lord Salisbury says:—"I have received with great gratification the kind assurance of confidence in the Conservative leaders contained in the second resolution. The reference made in the other resolution to the disastrous results which have arisen from the vacillating policy of the Government abroad and in the colonies is increasingly justified by the progress of events. Generations have passed away since Great Britain has found herself in opposition to a coalition of the European Powers, and has had to confront at the same time the just dissatisfaction of some of the most important of her own colonies."

Sir Stafford Northcote has intimated his readiness to deliver an address to the Exeter Conservative working-men at their annual *soirée*, to be held early next month. The right hon. Baronet will also preside at a conference, and at a dinner, and at a private conference of the representatives of local Conservative Associations.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1884, when there was a balance of £5,632,569, to the 31st of December, 1884, were £58,671,395, against £60,366,698 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £6,972,730. The net expenditure was £60,037,490, against £60,623,503 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on the 31st of December amounted to £4,749,115, and at the same date in 1883 to £5,600,339.

Mr. COLERIDGE J. KENNARD, M.P., speaking on Saturday at Salisbury, made a further reply to Mr. Bright's recent letter on agriculture. After reiterating that Mr. Bright has preached a "no-rent" doctrine, he said he quarrels not at all with the general proposition (which Mr. Chaplin had publicly laid down) that the degree of rent paid by the tenant farmer must bear due relation to possible profit in the production of food. And the same applied to the production of velvet, to which, he believed, Mr. Bright devoted his capital and efforts. They who advocated an inquiry into our fiscal system noted that Mr. Broadhurst and his trade unionists were determined not to admit the man into our body politic on the ground that he displaced an English native, whilst they freely admitted his handiwork. This was ruinously absurd; and the rich idle customer got a turn out of the absurdity. They now had forty years' experience on this matter. Such a man as Mr. Telken, Mr. Mundella's representative at Chemnitz, acknowledged the evil. He said, "The loss of the glove trade to Nottingham is an example of the way in which England is being robbed in detail of her industrial supremacy."

Mr. COURTNEY, M.P., speaking at Liskeard on Tuesday, defended his position on the question of proportional representation, and then said:—"On most of the great issues before the country—the great issues, for example, of colonial and foreign affairs—I have been, if possible, if Mr. Gladstone be taken as the embodiment of the Government, more governmental than some of the Government. If the truth may be told, there is no concealment about it, Mr. Gladstone may be almost said to be tortured by the Egyptian question. He has lost his bodily health; in some degree he has lost his sleep; he is under positive torture by the necessity and difficulty of knowing what shall be done in Egypt. Well, whatever Mr. Gladstone's mind has been on the matter of Egypt, I think I have been of that mind. If more people had cried out at the proper time against the fatal step of going into Egypt at all, we should not be now in the miserable position in which we find ourselves, unable to advance, unable to retreat, certain to have to undergo a profuse expenditure of money, and possibly of blood, uncertain whether we shall get any honour or credit out of the whole transaction. I confess that the Liberal party unfortunately is sometimes guilty of an excess of loyalty. They become 'dumb dogs,' lest they should say a word that should appear in any way to indicate a doubt as to the line of action adopted by their leaders; not because they like it, but because circumstances are hurrying them in a particular direction, from which their followers are not making the strenuous efforts they should make to save them. Precisely the same danger is now attending the Government in the matter of the colonies. Some philanthropic Jingoes among the Liberals are crying out for certain action on the part of the Government, which Government are not very willing to undertake, but which they may be forced to undertake if the friends of the Government do not strenuously cry out, 'No, no; do not go in that direction.' The leaders of the Government, let me assure you, like to have their hands strengthened now and then; and if their hands had been strengthened against the Egyptian policy, and if their hands were strengthened now upon a sober colonial policy—if they could hear the Liberal party saying as they used to say, 'We don't want to undertake vast and incalculable responsibilities all over the world; don't let us go grabbing territory here and there, which will only bring us into collision with other Powers,' they would only be too glad to be strengthened in that way."

Sir C. H. MILLS, in responding to the toast of "The County Members" at the annual dinner of the Sevenoaks Farmers' Club and Chamber of Agriculture, which was held on Wednesday night, said it was probably the last time this toast would be proposed at this annual gathering, because the Redistribution Bill, which there was every reason to expect would be passed during the ensuing session, not only destroyed the whole division of West Kent, but also gave a seat to only one member in each newly-created district, so that in the future in the county constituencies colleagues would be a thing of the past. It was with sorrow that he contemplated a severance with his colleague Lord Lewisham for this constituency of West Kent. He should always entertain the deepest feelings of gratitude to his political friends for the confidence they had accorded to him, and particularly to his opponents for the generous forbearance which he had received at their hands during the 16 years he had the honour of being their representative. Referring to agricultural subjects, Sir Charles said if the prosperity of agriculture depended only upon fine weather they would have had every reason to congratulate themselves on the season just passed. There was, however, another element necessary to its prosperity—namely, good prices, and he was afraid this year they could not say they had been able to obtain, certainly not in regard to their corn crop, anything like satisfactory prices, because when they heard of wheat being sold at 30s. per quarter he did not think it required a scientific person to tell them wheat could not be grown in this country at that price at a profit. The question arose was this only a temporary difficulty, and was there a prospect of their being able to return to a better state of affairs? He certainly considered that the questions whether they could grow wheat now, or whether they would be able to grow it in the future at a profit, could both be answered with tolerable confidence in the negative. He thought that the agricultural returns which had recently been published on the whole were satisfactory, because they showed that there was an increase under every head of stock except that of pigs. Another question arose, Would the large quantities of live cattle and dead meat which were annually brought into this country entirely swamp the English produce? He was of opinion that it would not. Although he did not entirely advocate that the making of jam or rearing of flowers should be universally adopted, he thought something might be done in that direction more than was done at present. Then, also, was it not worth while to consider, as there was a large quantity of land laid down in permanent pasture, whether something more might not be done in the way of dairy produce, and also of rearing poultry? He was of opinion that it was not unreasonable to consider whether they might increase the production of these articles at a profit. He considered that local taxation pressed most unfairly upon the agricultural interest at the present time. He did not believe that the Government could very much longer turn a deaf ear to that subject. Lord LEWISHAM also responded to the toast, and said with reference to the Redistribution Bill that he hoped, the two great parties in the State having done their best to lay the scheme before the country, that scheme would be carried to a natural conclusion, and that they would all in future reap the benefit of it.

Addressing a meeting of his constituents at Connah's Quay on Tuesday, Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR said he believed that there would be a Liberal majority in the new Parliament, and that that Parliament would be fully able to deal with the burning questions of the time. One of these would be the disestablishment of the Church. That was a question which would, undoubtedly, be one of the first questions for a Liberal Government and a Liberal Parliament to deal with, and he had very little doubt of its being decided in a manner satisfactory to the people of Wales.

Lord RICHARD GROSVENOR, M.P., on Thursday addressed a meeting of his constituents at Caerwys, Mold, dealing at some length with the question of Free and Fair Trade. He quoted statistics in support of Free Trade principles, and argued that the latter had been most beneficial to all classes of the community. He warned his hearers that the cry which the Tories were raising in behalf of Fair Trade was a device intended to catch votes at the next election. If Free Trade were abolished in this country the result would be most disastrous, especially to the working classes. Referring to the increase of education during recent years, he remarked that it was a good sign to see the working classes taking advantage of educational facilities, the result of which was that the two millions of people who were to be admitted to the benefits of the franchise were fully qualified to exercise their new rights, which had always been opposed by the Tories. But the Tories had always opposed measures brought forward by the Liberal party for the benefit of the working-classes and the country at large. He felt sure when the time came that the people of this country would not overlook the fact, nor the fact that it was due to Mr. Gladstone and the Liberal party that the great Franchise Bill which had effected a social revolution in a quiet, calm, and moderate way, and which would be pointed to for generations to come as an important landmark in the history of the country, had been passed by the Liberal party, and also a fair scheme or redistribution secured. When the question had been finally settled and other minor Bills disposed of Parliament would be free to consider such questions as disestablishment, the reform of the land laws, county government, &c., which could be satisfactorily settled only by the Liberal party. His Lordship said he felt sure Welshmen had the best wishes towards the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, who attained his majority that day, but they nevertheless trusted it would be many years before he came to the throne.

The Empress Eugénie, who is the guest of Lord Sydney, was present yesterday (Friday) morning at a Mass which was said in Chislehurst church upon the occasion of the anniversary of the death of Napoleon III.

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure in showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

## MR. CHAMBERLAIN AT BIRMINGHAM.

Speaking at a dinner given in his honour by working men in Birmingham on Monday night, Mr. Chamberlain observed that the changed condition of things as regards political rights would require novel combinations to meet them. In January next the Liberal party will have outgrown its old clothes, and it must be prepared with new garments. The organisation and the programme of the party must be alike enlarged to meet the necessities of the situation which will have been created. On this point Mr. Chamberlain went on to say:—

"The Tories are consoling themselves for the changes which they fear by the hope that, at all events, they will put an end to the power and the influence of the dreaded caucus. They never were more mistaken in their lives. The caucus is like the fabled hydra; you may strike off its head and half a dozen new ones spring from the dismembered trunk. There will be more need than ever for organisation if you are to gain the full advantage from the new conditions. Vested interests, special crotchets, and personal claims have a natural tendency to combine. They are on their defence; they are bound together by common ties and by common fears; and if the public good, if the interest of the great majority, is without discipline and without recognised leaders, it will be like a mob that disperses before the steady tread of a few policemen or before the charge of a handful of cavalry. I want to impress upon you that our free, open, representative Liberal associations are the essential condition of success in the future, as they have mainly contributed to our success in the past; but although the principle remains the form may very likely have to be changed in the big towns. . . .

What the exact form and details of the new organisation should be may well be left to the constituencies themselves. It seems to me, however, that it will be almost a necessity of future union and future success that in each of these districts there should be created a numerous, a powerful, a representative district council of the Liberal Association, and that to this district council should be wholly left the duty of selecting the candidates for each of the localities. But then these district councils unite to form the United Liberal Association of Birmingham, which would be no longer an Eight Hundred—it would be more likely a Two Thousand, and would alone have the power of collecting and expressing the opinion of the whole town. So under this system you would have the federated association defining and formulating the policy and the programme of the Liberal party as a whole, while the district councils would select their spokesmen and representatives in Parliament, on the School Board, and in the Town Council, to carry this policy without interference, control, or dictation from any other body whatsoever."

As to the effect of this change upon the future policy of the country, Mr. Chamberlain said:—

"In the first place, I think that, on the whole, the extension of popular authority will make for peace. I do not think that the democracy will have any love for a policy of intervention and aggression, nor any ambition for conquest and universal dominion. These things lead straight on to conscription, and you will not be eager or even willing to pay the blood-tax which is levied on your brethren in the Continental countries. I anticipate, then, that you will give no assistance to the party who are clamouring for what they call a strong foreign policy, and who at this moment, in the interest chiefly of the bondholders and financial speculators, are calling upon us to take possession of Egypt, without regard to the wishes of the population or the just susceptibilities of other nations. We are in Egypt at this time in pursuance of an unselfish object. Our task has proved of greater magnitude than we had anticipated. It is one, indeed, of almost unexampled difficulty. We have met with hostility and opposition in quarters where we had reason to hope for assistance and co-operation. But we will not be driven from our intentions. We will not yield one jot either to the perfidious suggestion of dubious friends abroad or to the interested clamour of financial greed at home, and we will not destroy the independence which we are solemnly pledged to Europe and to Parliament to respect. I hope and believe that in this course we shall have your approval, and that you will know how to distinguish between a policy of justice and a policy of weakness. But if the occasion should come to assert the authority of England, a democratic Government would know how to make itself respected, and how to maintain the obligations and the honour of the country."

Having given the assurance that the liberties, the rights, and the interests of the colonists are as dear to us as our own, and that if ever they are seriously menaced the whole power of the country will be exerted for their defence, Mr. Chamberlain expressed his opinion as to the nature of the domestic legislation of the future. Social subjects, he believed, would push themselves to the front. How to promote the greater happiness of the masses of the people, how to increase their enjoyment of life—that was the problem of the future; and just as there were politicians who would occupy all the world and leave nothing for the ambition of anybody else, so we had their counterpart in the men who, having already annexed everything that was worth having, expected everybody else to be content with the crumbs from their table. Mr. Chamberlain proceeded:—

"If you will go back to the origin of things you will find that when our social arrangements first began to shape themselves every man was born into the world with natural rights, with a right to a share in the great inheritance of the community, with a right to a part of the land of his birth. But all these rights have passed away. The common rights of ownership have disappeared. Some of them have been sold; some of them have been given away by people who had no right to dispose of them; some of them have been lost through apathy and ignorance; some have been stolen by fraud; and some have been acquired by violence. Private ownership has taken the place of these communal rights, and this system has become so interwoven with our habits and usages, it has been so sanctioned by law and protected by custom, that it might be very difficult and perhaps impossible to reverse it. But then, I ask, what ransom will property pay for the security which it enjoys? What substitute will it find for the natural rights which have ceased to be recognised? Society is banded together in order to protect itself



against the instincts of men who would make very short work of private ownership if they were left alone. That is all very well, but I maintain that society owes to these men something more than mere toleration in return for the restrictions which it places upon their liberty of action. There is a doctrine in many men's mouths and in few men's practices that property has obligations as well as rights. I think in the future we shall hear a great deal about the obligations of property, and we shall not hear quite so much about its rights. What are the rights of property? Is it a right of property which permits a foreign speculator to come to this country and lay waste 200 miles of territory in Scotland for the gratification of his love of sport, and to chase from the lands which their fathers tilled long before this intruder was ever heard of, the wretched peasants who were convicted of the crime of keeping a pet lamb within the sacred precincts of a deer forest? Are the game laws a right of property? Is it just and expedient that the amusements of the rich, carried even to barbarous excess, should be protected by an anomalous and Draconian code of law, and that the community should be called upon to maintain in gaol men who are made criminals by this legislation, although they have committed no moral offence? Is it a right of property that sailors should be sent to sea to pursue their dangerous occupation without any sufficient regard to their security? Is it tolerable that in pursuit of a necessary livelihood for themselves and their families they should embark in ships whose safe return depends wholly on the continuance of favourable weather and upon the absence of any of the ordinary accidents of the sea? Is it right that they should do this while the owners of these ships and the employers of these men sleep comfortably in their beds, with a certainty that whatever happens they will be no losers—that they will probably be gainers—while disasters cause so much misery to the seamen and to their families? Lastly, is it an essential condition of private ownership in land that the agricultural labourers in this country, alone of civilised countries, should be entirely divorced from the soil they till, that they should be driven into towns to compete with you for work and to lower the rate of wages, and that, alike in town and in country, the labouring population should be huddled into dwellings unfit for man or beast, where the conditions of common decency are impossible, and where they lead directly to disease, intemperance, and crime?

## THE END OF THE STRUGGLE.

We entirely differ from those who anticipate from the rule of the democracy in this country either a selfish insular or a doctrinaire cosmopolitan policy. We see nothing in the past history or present tendencies of the British people to justify either anticipation. From the days of the Plantagenets to our own, the people, with Saxon, Scandinavian, Norman blood coursing in their veins, have ever shown themselves willing and eager to transcend their island bounds, and follow their natural leaders on any quest, religious, warlike, commercial, or purely adventurous, to any part of the known or imagined globe. There is no pretence for saying that the sturdy soldiery who followed Richard Cœur de Lion to the Holy Land, or his successors to France—that the adventurers who accompanied Froisher, Drake, and Raleigh on their romantic if questionable expeditions—that the soldiers of Marlborough and Granby, of Wellington and Raglan, or the sailors of Anson and Howe, of Rodney and Nelson, pressed as many of them were under circumstances of atrocious cruelty and injustice—according to present views—disliked or condemned the work they were called upon to perform on any religious, political, or economical grounds. Nay, in the very struggle for American independence the great mass of the people of this country were as resolute as the King himself to maintain what they conceived to be their Imperial rights, and to vindicate their claim to rule those boundless territories across the Atlantic. So, too, in the rise and creation of our Indian Empire, had Clive and his compeers and successors not found in the temper and genius of their fellow-countrymen sympathy and co-operation their capacity and their courage would have accomplished no more enduring results than followed the brilliant achievements of Dupleix and Labourdonnais. The remarkable expansion of colonising enterprise which has characterised the last half century is but a peaceful development of the same spirit; and recent events have shown how completely those politicians were deceived who imagined that they who remained at home no longer regarded those who had left their island home as members of the same empire, subjects of the same Sovereign. No; the deeper we strike down to the roots of our national life, the more imperial shall we find the soil out of which they spring; and that imperial federation, which is now exercising the thoughts and stirring the imagination of a few far-seeing statesmen and political philosophers, will receive an unexpected impetus and support from below. On the other hand, that doctrinaire cosmopolitanism which constitutes the foreign policy of Mr. Gladstone and modern Radicalism, is equally alien to the genuine sentiment of the people. It was not to vindicate the abstract right of Servians or Bulgarians to govern themselves that any large body of the people followed Mr. Gladstone's Russian banner in 1877: it was the stories, true or false, of the atrocities inflicted upon them which gave that unscrupulous orator his power over popular opinion; and follies such as the restoration of Cetewayo to Zululand, the treatment of the freebooting Government of the Transvaal as a well-ordered responsible State, and the assumption that our costly and sanguinary campaigns in Egypt are to end in nothing better than the precarious re-establishment of Tewfik on the throne of that country, separated by an imaginary line from the Soudan, will find, we are convinced, no toleration among the classes from which our sailors and soldiers, upon whom fell the weight and burden of those abnormal enterprises, are taken. Still less do we believe that the hardy sons of toil will be satisfied with the extinction, one by one, of the industries on which they depend for support, or reconciled to it by the abstract theories of the Board of Trade and the Cobden Club. It is satisfactory to notice that the first labour candidate who has been invited to stand for a purely working man's constituency is Mr. George Potter, who, whatever may be his political faults in other matters, has the courage and good sense to

adopt, in matters affecting industry and the colonies, a patriotic and Imperial policy; and there is good reason to hope that through the increased number of county divisions a larger body of English and Scotch country gentlemen will appear at St. Stephen's in the new Parliament than in any which has assembled there since 1832. While, however, we thus take a cheerful view of the general spirit which will characterise and direct the revolutionised House of Commons, we are by no means insensible to the risks and dangers which beset so democratic a body as it will necessarily become. Passion, impatience, incapacity to see all the bearings of a particular movement or measure, undue readiness to believe that which it wishes to believe, and an arrogant contempt for views antagonistic to its own—these constitute the principal dangers of the future House of Commons of the United Kingdom. These dangers, we believe, will be diminished by the operation of the single-membered system, and by the gradual reaction of our self-governed colonies on public opinion at home, which will in time exercise a steadying effect on our domestic as well as our colonial and foreign policy. But when all proper allowance is made for these Conservative influences, it can hardly be doubted that the new constitution of the House of Commons will cast an additional burden on the restraining and moderating functions of what Mr. Lecky terms "the other branches of the Legislature," in a passage which merits careful attention:—"The increasingly democratic character and the increasing strength of the House of Commons may make it impossible for it to co-operate with the other branches of the Legislature; and the constant intervention of the House in the proceedings of the Executive, and of the constituencies in the proceedings of the House, may profoundly alter its character as a legislative body. Governments living from day to day, looking only for immediate popularity, and depending on the fluctuating and capricious favour of great multitudes who have no settled political opinions, may gradually lose all firmness and tenacity; and all power of muscular contraction, all power of restraining, controlling, or resisting, may thus pass out of the body politic." These grave and weighty words of warning invest with peculiar interest and importance the recent action and future position of the House of Lords. Will it be impossible, as Mr. Lecky seems to fear, and sundry Radical orators hope, for the democratised House of Commons to co-operate with the hereditary House of Lords? The origin, progress, and end of the recent constitutional struggle seems to us to warrant a negative reply. The origin of the struggle was a demand on the part of the House of Lords to be consulted in any organic change even of the other Legislative Chamber. In its progress not only was that demand ridiculed, but the very existence of the body making it was challenged and threatened. In the end the demand was conceded, and the House of Lords has acquired a stronger hold in the esteem of the people, and increased influence in the Councils of the State. If we were to qualify at all the general approval of the "peace with honour" which terminated the struggle it would be on the ground that it has left the Radical agitators the power of saying that the question of the House of Lords has not been finally decided, and that on the next convenient opportunity—i.e. whenever they again do their duty—it shall be reopened, and their independent existence destroyed. Language of that kind has, we notice with regret, been held even by so cautious a speaker as Mr. Campbell-Bannerman. Now, had Mr. Gladstone persevered, and brought the constitutional position of the House of Lords to a direct issue at the polling-booths, we are convinced an enormous majority would have declared in favour of the existing Constitution, and the question would have been set at rest for the remainder of this century. As it is, the Constitutional party must be on the alert, and prepared to defend the rights and independence of the hereditary Chamber whenever and by whomsoever attacked. Behind that august body stands the still more august figure of the hereditary head of the State—the Sovereign; and the battle, waged nominally in defence of the first, will practically determine in its result the fate of both institutions. May the new electors and the new constituencies realise the grandeur and the difficulty of their task, and by their prudence, self-control, and courage, reconcile the glorious traditions of the past with the institutions of the present and the developing empire of the future!—*Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine.*

## INDIAN ENGLISH.

An amusing article in the *Indian Review*, by Mr. Ellis Underwood, gives the educated Hindoo an opportunity of seeing himself as others see him in a superficial way, just as M. Max O'Rell has done for our own countrymen and countrywomen at home. The ball thus set a-rolling will, probably, not be permitted to stop abruptly. Mr. Underwood, at any rate, has promised us in a future contribution to record many more "things of worthy memory," and, perhaps, at the same time some native gentleman will be found who will, in the same good-humoured way, contribute a similar sketch, showing the many and flagrant absurdities which without doubt Englishmen are constantly committing in native eyes. Such a sketch appearing side by side with Mr. Underwood's future paper would, says the *Times of India*, have a capital effect, and we should get a good opportunity of finding out many things that the majority of us do not know. It is to the great credit of the educated natives of India that most of the errors in English which they commit are errors of misguiding education, whereas it is dreadful to think how many solecisms of absolute ignorance an Anglo-Indian would commit if he attempted unaided an ordinary correspondence in any of the vernacular languages. The ordinary educated native can read and write English fluently and well, but very few of our countrymen have more than a colloquial knowledge of the native languages. Undoubtedly the gem of Mr. Underwood's collection of extracts is the following. A native provincial paper a few years ago, in complaining that no rules of precedence were observed in assigning seats at a public ceremonial, thus strikingly expressed itself:—"Rich Zemindars and famous bankers were sent to a corner, while an offshoot was seen flashing in a front row." History repeats itself. Little less than a month ago, at

one of the great political meetings held in the recess, Sir William Harcourt assured a large audience that he was a scion—a scion of a noble house—and the modest admission was received with thunders of applause. Neither the admirers nor the detractors of the present Home Secretary would feel inclined to deny that as a politician he occupies a prominent position; there stands the honourable gentleman self-confessed and almost in his own language "an offshoot flashing in the front row." It is also amusing to learn that certain dissipated chamars living in one of the principal streets of Calcutta had the pernicious practice of making night hideous "with their abominable songs and tom-toms, following Bacchus's course nearly the whole night." It is not strange to hear that consequently "the neighbouring gentlemen of that part had hardly time to sleep on deeply and soundly with comfort," though it is difficult to perceive how they could sleep on deeply and soundly and yet not be comfortable. After a pathetic appeal to the editor of the paper for some one "to reprimand the evils of these myrmidons," the correspondent who penned the contribution from which these remarks are taken goes on to ask, "Who is to be blamed and held responsible for the life of the neighbouring inhabitants?" which would seem to have been endangered by the lack of deep, sound, and withal comfortable sleep. We are glad to learn that several gentlemen of the quarter took heart of grace and spoke to these contumacious chamars "of their frivolous deed," but, alas! they spoke to deaf ears and hardened hearts; for the chamars rejoined by "showing only their thumbs" (surely that was sufficient), a species of retort that has found favour in the eyes of all disputants from the time of the followers of the rival houses of Montagu and Capulet down to the present day. If contemporary literature is to be believed implicitly, did not the great Sara Bernhardt herself the other day signally petrify, crush, and grind to powder an offending station-master by an action that had much in common with that of these ribald chamars? The following extract from an account of an affray between the followers of a deputy-magistrate and a party of dacoits shows that the spirit of the maxim, "He that fights and runs away lives to fight another day," is not altogether unknown in the East. The deputy-magistrate in question, with less valour than discretion, "escaped by flight in order to ensure personal safety." He had no other motives. Mr. Underwood also quotes a most curious and lofty advertisement of some particularly fine brandy published by a native firm a few years ago. This extraordinary production is rather too long to quote fully. The owners "of this highly appreciative brandy" sought "to reap its extensive patronage," and accordingly "lowered it in price and introduced it firstly, as a trial in the field of the distinguished votaries of Bacchus, and secondly, for a comparison of price among the advocates of economy." We trust that the distinguished votaries and advocates aforesaid were duly satisfied, the price (Rs. 14 per dozen) was at any rate excellent. The advertisement ends with a flash of inspiration which we give in full:—"In conclusion we state that the public will not entertain any spark of doubt and adverse idea relating to the above advertisement, or in other words the generality of mankind will not dub the undersigned a 'chanting enalogy of the deceased Mackerel.'" These and many other absurd extracts Mr. Underwood has culled from a collection apparently extending over several years, and strung together in an amusing way. Bombay is not left out in the cold, for Mr. Jehangir Ardassir Chino's verses on the Duke of Connaught's arrival last year meet with due recognition. Ludicrous as the verses are, we should much like to see a sample of vernacular poetry attempted by an Englishman that would not be infinitely more so. As to the rest of the facetious odds and ends quoted, he that buys may read, and they are probably worth reading.

## ENGLAND'S DUTY TO HER COLONIES.

Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., writes as follows with reference to the recent German annexations in the South Pacific:—"Whether, or how far, the Government is to blame for not anticipating Germany in Northern New Guinea, or New Britain, or at Angra Pequena, is a question which will keep till the House meets; but Prince Bismarck will not refrain from acting because Parliament is not sitting, and I most earnestly hope that our Government is now fully taking into account the new fact with which they have to deal—viz., the determination of Germany not only to form colonies, but to take possession of territories before such colonies are formed. This much is clear, that this determination must be a fact new both to the Colonial Office and to the Foreign Office; and to my mind the real and urgent question is this—Where, in these changed circumstances, ought we to be, beforehand? Or, to speak plainly—Where, on what islands, at what stations, without loss of time, ought the British flag to be hoisted? It may, and I doubt not it will, be said—How can this new fact harm us? Have we not colonies enough and responsibilities enough? Shall Englishmen grudge Germans their share in the extension of civilisation? Certainly not; I welcome German colonisers. I believe that they will benefit the world; and indeed, wherever Germany or any foreign Power has an immediate intention of founding a colony, or forming a settlement, and we have not, it would, in almost every case, be an unworthy, dog-in-the-manger policy on our part to attempt to interfere. But where there is reason to believe that a foreign settlement, German or other, would be a danger to a British colony, or that a foreign flag would be hoisted mainly to prevent the further extension or to hamper the growth of our colonies—surely in those cases it is the duty of our Ministers to take counsel with the Ministers of the colonies, and, if they agree together that the interests of the Empire require that British sovereignty be asserted, then to assert it without delay. Let us not forget that the future of Australasia rests with the men of our race. Australians and New Zealanders will form great and powerful commonwealths. No mistake that we at home can make can prevent this. From what they already are, we can imagine what they will become: but their difficulties in the future may be greatly increased if, for want of forecast or energy on our part, they may be deprived of their heritage. Let us, then, even now, strive so to deal with this crisis as to make

them feel that they do not lose, but gain, by being our fellow-countrymen; for, depend upon it, the time will come when we shall want their aid fully as much as they can now want ours. I trust and believe that it is not too late. There is much irritation, not unnatural, at apparent neglect; but as regards New Guinea, after all, the limits of our protectorate are, I suppose, not yet defined, the Germans are not on its Australian side, and there are other islands nearer to our colonies, the possession of which would be of more importance, and the loss of which would be a greater danger. Surely it is still possible for English and colonial statesmen, and for the leaders and exponents of public opinion, both at home and in the colonies, so to use these colonial intentions and aspirations of Germany as to strengthen the ties between Australia and England. Surely, our Ministers will let the Ministers of the colonies know that in dealing with Germany in this matter they consider colonial to be Imperial interests; and will, on the one hand, ask them to frankly state what fresh Imperial responsibilities they think should be incurred; and, on the other hand, will as frankly ask them to state what share of the burdens of these responsibilities they are prepared to bear. There is much talk and much thought nowadays about Imperial Federation—the permanent union of England with her colonies. Let me say to those who, like myself, care more about the attainment of this aim than about almost any other political object, that there will be practically federation, at any rate between England and Australia and New Zealand, if the foreign policy of England towards Germany in this colonial matter be decided by agreement between the Home Government and Australian Governments, upon conditions of mutual defence and common responsibility; and, on the other hand, that there will be little hope of permanent union if we in England decide such a question as this regardless of colonial feeling or colonial interests."

## MONEY MATTERS.

When the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 17th of November last, stated the extraordinary requirements of the military services for the current year, he expressed the opinion that the revenue would produce more than had been estimated in April. He did not say what the amount of the expected increase was; but, from the fact that the extra taxation imposed fell short of the extra supplies asked for by something like £400,000, it may be presumed that that was the sum he was counting on. People who follow the progress of revenue collection as shown in the *Times* newspaper from week to week must have noticed this announcement of Mr. Childers's with surprise, as the returns published up to that time afforded no apparent ground for such an expectation. That for the completed third quarter, which has just been printed, does not greatly modify the impression produced by its predecessors—namely, that the revenue is sluggish, and that the prospect is rather of a deficit than of a surplus on the April Estimates. The principal item of the tax revenue—Excise—is short of the yield at the corresponding period of last year by no less than £425,000. It will be remembered that the partial surrender of the railway passenger duty, which took effect in October, 1883, was estimated to involve a loss of £135,000 to the year 1883-84, and of £265,000 additional to succeeding years. But, as was explained by Mr. Childers when he opened this year's Budget, the loss of revenue accruing from this cause up to the 31st of March last did not exceed £53,000; so that, unless on the supposition of a permanent increase in the yield of the remaining half of the duty, the further loss to the present and future years ought to be £347,000. Mr. Childers, nevertheless, estimated the Excise revenue at only £152,000 less than last year's yield, which of course means that he expected £195,000 more from other branches of the Excise. He did not explain where this was to come from, and it now seems tolerably clear that he made a miscalculation. The item Customs has, during what has gone of the year, maintained itself decidedly in advance of the position necessary for fulfilling Mr. Childers's expectation. It was estimated to yield £150,000 more this year than last, and the increase for the nine months is £249,000. Stamps, which in the last quarterly return had fallen behind their expected proportional yield (about 1 per cent. below that of last year) by some £90,000, have now more than recovered their position, being £80,000 ahead of last year. With respect to Income-tax, the derangement occasioned by the frequent changes in the rate makes it difficult to form an idea of how we stand. The amount collected is £400,000 below what it was at this time last year; whilst the total diminution for the year was estimated by Mr. Childers in April at £668,000. As the difference arises from the fact that a portion of the earlier collections in 1883-4 were at the rate of 6½d., it is natural to suppose that the entire deficiency would declare itself in the earlier months of the present year, and that the remaining yield of the normal 5d. rate (that is, exclusive of what may be produced by the additional 1d. just imposed) may not be under that of last year. In that case the total for this year would exceed Mr. Childers's April estimate (£10,050,000) by £270,000. It will be well to remember, however, that last year's Income-tax, as was explained by Mr. Childers on April 4 last, produced £450,000 more than had been expected: a result which was probably due more to increased pressure and expedition in the last quarter's collections than to any improvement in the productiveness of the tax. The revenue proceeding from other sources than taxation is more unsatisfactory than the tax revenue. From Post Office and Telegraphs Mr. Childers expected an aggregate increase of £225,000 on last year. So far as we have gone the increase is only £120,000. Interest on advances is £180,000 under what it was at this time last year, whereas the entire decrease for the year was estimated at only £16,000. The proportion of Miscellaneous corresponding to Mr. Childers's estimate would be £2,500,000. It has only reached £2,253,000. Taking the revenue as a whole, Mr. Childers estimated in April that it would be £1,850,000 less than last year. It is at present £1,700,000 less than it was twelve months ago; so that a marked improvement must take place in the remaining three months if the April estimates are to be approached.—*St. James's Gazette.*



Sir Stafford Northcote has contributed to *England* the following article:—

"Johnnie," said a proud mother, the other day, "you are three years old." "No, ma," was the response, "three years young."

It is, as we know, a first rule of politeness never to ask a lady her age; and perhaps the same rule may be held to extend to the case of nations. But it is sometimes difficult to repress a feeling of curiosity upon the point; and probably at the present moment there are many whose minds are exercised with the anxious question:—This England of ours, of which we are so proud and so fond, are we to call her old, or are we to call her young? We know, indeed, that she has existed since the Heptarchy, somewhere about a thousand years, and in that time has played a pretty large part in the world's great drama. But are we to say of her she is a thousand years old, or that she is a thousand years young? Has she reached maturity? or has she passed it, and is she beginning to fall into decay? Is her strength abated, or her arm shortened? Or, more anxious question still, is her spirit dashed, and is courage dimmed in her councils?

The world is divided into optimists and pessimists; and these last again may be sub-divided into the friendly and the unfriendly. There are some who see signs of weakness and decay where they wish to see them, and because they wish to see them. There are others whose hearts are warm and true, but who are rendered nervous and anxious by the very strength of the affection which they bear to their beloved country. These are what we may call the friendly pessimists. To them every mole-hill appears a mountain, every shower a tempest, every risk a vital danger. The country they are sure can never pass through the trials now awaiting her; her days are numbered her sun is setting.

The State of Portsmouth, and of Plymouth Docks, Your trade, your taxes, Army, Navy, stocks, All haunt me in my dreams, and when I rise The Bank of England scares my open eyes. I see, I know, some dreadful storm is brewing, Arm all your coasts, your Navy is your ruin.

Alarmists of this sort do harm in more ways than one. In the first place, they impress upon foreigners an exaggerated idea, or probably a wholly false one, of the weakness of the country. Secondly, by the reaction from their exaggerations they produce a false security at home, and indispose the public to give the needful attention to the actual necessities of our national services. The pessimist who believes that England can never get through her difficulties is apt to produce the optimist who believes that we are amply provided down to the very buttons of our garters, and need trouble ourselves neither with the state of our defences, nor with that of our trade, or our agriculture, or our manufactures.

If we extend our views a little further we find that it is much the same with our relations to our great Trans-marine Empire. To the pessimist our colonial possessions are little else than a subject of anxiety and annoyance. Though he may not care to say it in so many words, in his heart he thinks that it would be a happy thing for us if we could wake up some fine morning and find that the whole of our colonies had taken wing and left the parental nest free from all care or responsibility on their account. The optimist, on the other hand, regards these mighty possessions as a source, not only of legitimate pride, but of incalculable strength to us, and believes that we may trust to their support in the future without taking any trouble either to retain the affection or to command the respect of our brethren across the sea.

It would help not a little towards the formation of a sound opinion, and the adoption of a rational policy in these matters, if we could decide upon the proper answer to the question put at the beginning of this paper, and could say whether we considered England to be old or young. That which I would myself suggest is, that she is neither the one nor the other, or, if the reader prefers it, she is both the one and the other. She has, or ought to have, acquired the wisdom of age; she has not yet begun to lose the strength of manhood. She has accumulated many advantages; it is now her part to see that she does not forfeit them by carelessness, or let them slip through want of spirit. She has contracted large responsibilities; it is for her to do her best to discharge them with a spirit worthy of her great power, her great name, and her great history.

We are now making changes of considerable magnitude and importance in our electoral system. What precise effect those changes may have upon the fortunes of political parties is a question upon which it is not necessary now to enter. Much will depend upon the wisdom and the energy of those parties themselves. But what is of real consequence to us all is that the great body of the new electorate should be brought to take a just view of the general position of the Empire, and of the interest which each part has in the welfare of the whole. If this is not done, and if the constituencies of England allow themselves to degenerate into mere bodies of vestrymen and poor law guardians, we shall soon feel the effect in a very unpleasant manner; and the narrow-minded village politician will discover, too late, that the alienation and loss of flourishing colonies means not only the reduction of the importance of Britain among the nations of the world, but the contraction of business and the limitation of profits within his own doors.

There is now going up from our fields and from our factories a cry of distress such as, indeed, we have heard before, but such as we cannot wisely or justly neglect. Remedies are proposed, some of which are of a questionable character, and seem calculated, in the end, to do harm rather than good. But the case is clearly one for careful and unprejudiced inquiry, so that we may ascertain how far the causes of the distress are local and how far general, how far temporary and how far chronic, how far due to economic laws and how far to legislation. The suggested remedies, too, ought to be critically examined. If our previous policy has failed, as is alleged, there is the more reason for scrutinising that which is proposed in its stead, lest that, too, should prove to be unsound in its turn. Upon these general questions I do not enter now. They demand and must receive the full attention of Parliament. But this at least seems clear, that, in any scheme of legislation or of action we may adopt, the colonial factor must be regarded as of the very highest importance; and that it is, therefore, of primary necessity that we should

put a true and adequate value upon the maintenance and development of our great Imperial system, not for the sake of a high-sounding name or of a striking display, but because the strength and prosperity of each part of that system is essential to the strength and prosperity of the whole; and because we must fail to secure that great object unless we are able to convince our colonists at once of our goodwill, of our power, and our resolution. It is in the relation between England and her colonies that we find one of the marks by which we are to judge of our country's destiny. That they, at least, have a great future before them no one is likely to doubt; but will it be a future in which the mother country will share, and over which she will exercise a beneficent influence? If she is worn out, or has become enfeebled by luxury or distracted by factions, her empire will be short-lived; and were decadence once to set in she would become a prey to internal calamities from the very thought of which our patriotisms recoil. But if, as I firmly believe, her spirit is equal to her position, she has now the opportunity of consolidating and strengthening the rapidly-growing forces of the English race, and of preparing for herself a record which will grow brighter as time goes on, and as the seed she has sown throughout the world ripens to a glorious harvest.

And when by envy Time transported  
Shall seek to rob us of our joys,  
You'll in your girls again be courted,  
And I'll go wooing in my boys.

## THE ADVANTAGES OF READING AND RECREATION ROOMS.

Lady John Manners has contributed to the *Queen* a series of interesting and thoroughly practical articles on the advantages of easily accessible reading and recreation rooms for people of the humbler classes. She offers many valuable suggestions as to the manner in which these institutions should be conducted, and the class of literature that ought to be provided, which, while suited to every variety of taste, will be thoroughly healthy in character and calculated to elevate and refine as well as to instruct in the practical affairs of life. We subjoin a few passages from the concluding portion of Lady John's fourth article on this subject:—

"The value of libraries would in small towns and villages be greatly enhanced if courses of lectures were held. In order to render this possible, however, there must be a spacious room available. Miss Weston has a large hall in connection with her institute at Devonport, where religious meetings are held without interfering with the secular branch. Mr. Ingram, of The Gardens, Belvoir, who has delivered many interesting lectures to large audiences, and has a great knowledge of the needs of the rural population, writes that he has felt it would be most useful if there could be a hall in every village where meetings, concerts, lectures, and entertainments could be given. I have seen almost the whole population on *fête* days sitting to hear the fine military bands in Germany, and there are still dancing-grounds in many foreign places where young people waltz, with the full approval of their parents. But in the vast majority of small towns and villages in our country the public-house is still the only place where a little festivity can be held. Even if our climate allowed of outdoor gatherings, open spaces are not available for such recreative purposes. I fear some will say, What have music and dancing to do with reading and recreation rooms? Only this, that we must avail ourselves, as far as possible, of every means to draw people from places where temptations beset them. In very many publichouses music is found to draw greatly. The same old tunes are played night after night and are applauded rapturously at exactly the same places. Those who have assisted at concerts for the poor can testify to the delight shown when songs are given with feeling or instrumental music played with spirit. The secretary of the National Thrift Society, Mr. Bowden Green, in 'Eastward Ho' refers to the fact that the meetings of benefit clubs are generally held at publichouses, and if the investment of 6d. or 1s. is accompanied by the expenditure of 2d. to 3d. there is not much thrift about the transaction. If, by arrangement, the club meetings could be held at a village-hall or reading-room, there would be no necessity for any expenditure for the good of the house. The necessity for a great increase in the number of reading and recreation rooms becomes daily more urgent. The school boards are educating the young highly, and inculcating a taste for reading. Is it not of the utmost importance that, on entering life, those who have been educated up to a high standard should find facilities for keeping up the knowledge acquired so painfully, sometimes with great risk to health? In France free libraries are almost universal; in Switzerland the greatest pains are taken to render them efficient; and I hear that the public library at Geneva has issued a catalogue intended to serve as a guide to the formation of similar institutions. In some places it has been proved to be of great advantage to the community to have reading-rooms open on Sunday. Multitudes of young men and women, away from their homes, engaged in business, have no place in which to spend many hours of the Day of Rest. I wrote in the *National Review* of August 'A Plea for the Emancipation of Certain English Bondmen and Women.' I have given extracts from various writers, hoping to bring this subject to the notice of those who can provide places where rest on the seventh day may be enjoyed by those at a distance from their homes. Mr. Erle opened his reading-room in the country on Sunday. He found that some of his Dissenting neighbours objected to this course being taken, on the ground that the people would read the newspapers or secular books. Mr. Erle pointed out the advantages of inducing those who would not attend evening church or chapel to spend their time quietly, where, at all events, they would be kept out of mischief; still, opposition was offered by the Nonconformist body. He then offered, in deference to the views of right and wrong entertained by a large section of his neighbours, to meet them half way, and to arrange a large shutter, by means of which all the "secular" books could be kept out of reach on a Sunday, and he also proposed to add to the religious books very largely. The compromise was accepted. From that moment the library became the only ground on which the clergy of all denominations in that neighbourhood would meet or communicate.

To quote Mr. Erle's words: 'A reading-room means a great deal, far more than the mere words indicate. The existence of such a place supplies both a spot where meetings can be held for all sorts of pleasant and worthy purposes, and it is a sort of standing incitement towards enterprises of the kind. . . . The reading-room here became a sort of source of life and light to the whole district.' The new year would indeed be a happy new year if it inaugurated the commencement of a period when every man, woman, and child might be welcome to share in the pure and profitable pleasures of well-chosen books. Then, in the words of Talfourd:—'The solitary leisure of the clerk, of the shopman, of the apprentice, of the overseer, of every worker in all departments of labour, from the highest to the lowest, shall be gladdened at will by those companions to whom the serene creators of immortal things in verse and prose have given him perpetual introduction, and who will never weary, betray, or forsake him.'

## THE SACRED LITERATURE OF CHALDEA.

The fourth of Mr. W. S. Chad Boscawen's series of British Museum lectures, delivered last week, was devoted to the above subject. The lecturer began by remarking that few were aware of the great mass of religious literature which has been recovered during the last half-century from the buried temples and libraries of Assyria and Babylonia. Not only was the number of tablet books now accessible to students so great as to be unequalled by almost any other collection of the sacred literature of the East, but the contents of these long-lost tomes was so varied in character, so rich in its poetry, as to render description in a single lecture almost impossible. The sacred books of Chaldea occupied a high position in Oriental literature, and one which rendered their study most important to the student of religious development. The Vedic Hymns, the Zend Avesta, the Chinese Classics, and the Hebrew Scriptures came to us as classic literature. We find them in their most highly developed canonical form, with a text every word of which has been guarded by a strong phalanx of priestly conservatism. There have been preserved to us none of the earlier less elaborate and superseded editions which formed the stepping-stones to those classics. In the case of the Babylonian sacred books we have a sequence extending back to remote antiquity and showing copious evidence of growth and development. Great care was taken by the priest-scribes to preserve the ancient texts upon which the Authorised Version was formed, and it is from these early editions we can trace step by step how the religion grew from the primitive speculations of the Akkadian animism, or fetish-worship, to the fuller developed theories of the Chaldean theologians. In richness of examples of the various phases of religious growth the land of Chaldea was unapproached save by the varied creeds of India, and ranged from rude, weird, and magical litanies, resembling the Atharva Veda of the Hindoos, to prayers or psalms so full of deep religious fervour and poetry as to be worthy of association with the highest efforts of the Hebrew psalmists. Just as the analysis of the cuneiform syllabary had revealed the early mental efforts of the inventors to give graphic expression to the daily increasing vocabulary, so the study of the early magical litanies had preserved the first attempts of these ancient philosophers to solve the mystery of Nature. They revealed to us a creed of animism by which all nature was the abode of myriads of spirits or souls. The sun, moon, stars, the rushing storm and dark thundercloud, trees, plants, rivers, and animals were all inhabited and controlled by an indwelling spirit or life. The lecturer then proceeded to show how it was probably by means of deductions from the states of sleep and death that this rude solution of nature-life had been arrived at. In course of time a dualism was established in this spirit world of good, benevolent spirits, and evil, noxious demons, and this naturally produced a priesthood of magicians and sorcerers like the Shamans of the tribes of Central Asia or the medicine men of the American Indian tribes. In the early ritual of this creed were many primitive customs, such as the use of the firestick, the divining rod, the wearing of amulets, talismanic gems, and phylacteries. Mr. Boscawen then proceeded to show how in religious development in Chaldea, as in social progress, the friction and fusion of the varied ethnic elements and schools of thought had been productive of great and rapid progress. The spirit realm of nature became divided into three great kingdoms of earth, heaven, and underworld, and the great spirits who ruled these spheres became the first-born gods. The lecturer then gave a *résumé* of the great Chaldean epic poem, the 'Story of Gishdubar.' The poem is in 12 books, and their arrangement was based on the calendar, each of the 12 months being represented by a story of the hero Gishdubar corresponding with the zodiac sign. Thus for the second month, called the month of the Propitious Bull (Taurus), there was the legend of Heabani, the satyr-like companion of the hero; for the third month—of the Twins—the episode of the two twin sisters Samkhat (Pleasure) and Kharimat (Lust), the companions of Ishtar; while the famous Deluge legend is woven into the poem to correspond to the eleventh month, 'the Curse of Rain' and the sign Aquarius. In the deeds of the Chaldean hero, his slaying the lion of the desert and the winged human-headed bull, his journey to the garden of the West, and his sickness, we had, the lecturer said, the undoubted originals of the Greek legends of Heracles, and by the discovery and decipherment of these tablets a great and important addition has been made to the science of comparative mythology. In connection with his remarks on the last book of the epic, which contains a most poetic description of the Chaldean Hades and Heaven, the lecturer said that the value of these Chaldean poems was very great to Biblical students. The description of the 'Land whence none return,' called Sualu, the Hebrew Sheol, 'The House of Death,' as 'the region of corruption,' 'the dwelling of the Great Devourer,' 'the house at whose entrance they bar out the light,' 'whose road of approach has no return,' 'where much dust was their food and their nourishment mud,' was equal in poetic imagery to the finest passages in Virgil or Dante. It was still more important, he said, to notice how the same similes were found in these tablets, written in a kindred tongue, as in the Hebrew descriptions of

Sheol, especially the 88th Psalm and Isaiah xiv. Mr. Boscawen, in conclusion, proceeded to trace the growth of the legends relating to Sin, Death, and the Serpent, and closed his lecture with some extracts from a Chaldean Penitential Psalm, which, he said, needed no comment of his to show revealed the same deep religious feeling of penitence and richness of expression as those which many centuries afterwards were wrung from the heart of the writer of the 51st Psalm. Indeed, no more striking proof could be afforded of the accuracy and value of cuneiform decipherment than the marvellous agreement in language, thought, and expression between the sacred literatures of Chaldea and Judea.

## EDUCATIONAL.

Mr. A. C. Benson, son of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was educated at Eton College on the foundation, has been appointed junior assistant-master of Eton College, in the place of Mr. Inge, resigned. The students return from their Christmas holidays on the 21st inst.

A meeting of Convocation of the University of London was held on Tuesday evening at the University-buildings, Burlington-gardens; Dr. Storror in the chair. The report of the annual committee was adopted. A resolution was passed, on the motion of Dr. Curnow, again urging upon the Senate the desirability of holding the preliminary scientific (M.B.) examination twice a year. A long discussion took place upon a resolution moved by Mr. J. Anstie, Q.C. for the appointment of a special committee to consider the proposals lately published by the Association for Promoting the Establishment of a Teaching University for London. The resolution was agreed to unanimously, and a committee of forty members was appointed. The meeting then adjourned for a month.

For some years past the old boys of King's College School have been in the habit of dining together annually, and on Monday evening they held their annual *reunion* at the Holborn Restaurant. Additional interest attached to the dinner from the fact that they also celebrated the formation of a King's College School Old Boys' Club. The Rev. H. Wace, D.D. (principal of King's College) presided over a gathering of nearly 150 gentlemen, and the company included the Rev. T. H. Stokoe (headmaster of the school), the Rev. G. F. Maclear (late headmaster), the Rev. J. Twentyman, Dr. Preston, Major Garland-Matthews, Professor Hales, the Rev. Blomfield Jackson, Baron de Watteville, M.D., and Mr. W. B. Collins, jun. (honorary secretary). In proposing 'Continued success to King's College School,' Dr. Maclear said he had no fear as to its future, and assured his hearers that he could remember no happier times than those during which he was associated with the school. Dr. Stokoe, who responded, expressed his opinion that the club would be the means of conferring benefit upon the school in various ways. The chairman, who gave the toast of the evening, 'King's College School Old Boys' Club,' said it was intended to provide a permanent centre in London at which old members of the school could be sure of finding their fellows, and thus keeping up their connection with an institution in which they had spent the years of their boyhood. They were undoubtedly at a crisis in the development of the educational institutions of the City of London. Such movements as the establishment of a Teaching University for London combined to make this a turning point in the history of such bodies as their own, and he could not but regard it as something more than a happy coincidence that at this time an institution should be set on foot tending to concentrate in one strong body the interests, affections, and loyalty of the members of King's College School. The club now numbered 187 members, and he might mention that among those who sent letters of regret at being unable to be present at their celebration that evening were the Dean of Winchester, the Rev. Dr. Manning, Sir Algernon Borthwick, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild, Mr. Grantham, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. R. Webster, Q.C. Mr. W. B. Collins, jun., responded to the toast.

The Salvation Army, according to its report for 1884, has now 910 corps, namely:—In the United Kingdom, 637; France, 8; Switzerland, 7; Sweden, 4; United States, 50; California, 5; Canada, 71; India, 14; South Australia, 35; Victoria, 21; New South Wales, 21; New Zealand, 23; Tasmania, 3; and the Cape of Good Hope, 11; total, 910. Of Little Soldiers' Corps there are 444, which have held 933 meetings during the year, attended by 41,688 children. The Army at home is officered by 1,147 persons, exclusive of majors, who number 14, aides-de-camp 29, and 'specials' 37. There are 188 cadets in the training barracks, and the training home staff numbers 20. Abroad there are 688 officers, the total at home and abroad being 2,332. In connection with the 'village warfare,' it is reported there are 303 villages regularly occupied in the United Kingdom, besides 100 occasionally visited. A summary of the financial statements for the year ended the 30th of September last, shows a total income of £74,665 18s. 6d., which includes receipts on account of the general spiritual fund amounting to £24,452 1s.; building fund, £30,182 18s. 8d.; training homes, £6,302 4s. 4d.; foreign service, £3,704 14s.; France and Switzerland, £2,082 16s. 6d. There was a balance in hand at the end of the financial year of £448 5s. The trading transactions of the Army realised a net profit of £6,790 0s. 11d., which has again more than sufficed to cover the entire expenses of the headquarters' management. The Army has added to its mercantile operations by the sale of 'musical instruments, watches specially designed to remind the soldier of his God and his duty, mottoes and other articles for home use, all contrived with the same end in view; and now last of all, tea, and other things which cannot, except by means of covers or marks, have so direct a bearing on the propagation of the truth, but which will at least answer another great purpose which experience has taught us we may safely aim at—the raising funds by trade profits.' During this year eighty-five new barracks were opened in the United Kingdom, including a congress hall at Brighton, seating 3,500, and costing over £7,000, which had been presented to the Army by two residents there. Abroad the work of the organisation is described as succeeding and extending satisfactorily.



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FINANCIAL INFORMATION, 1st JUNE, 1884.—

|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Total Funds                                              | £2,143,108 |
| Total Annual Income                                      | £248,371   |
| Total Amount of Claims upon Death                        | £2,373,638 |
| Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus | £437,347   |

NO AGENTS EMPLOYED AND NO COMMISSION PAID.

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The Net Losses by Fire during the year were, after deducting re-insurances, £672,825 13s. 10d. This embraces not merely all losses actually ascertained and paid, but a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December.

The Fire Funds, after payment of the Dividend and Bonus ascertained, and irrespective of the Paid-up Capital, are as follows:—

|                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Reserve                            | £1,170,000 0 0 |
| Premium Reserve                    | 309,248 9 11   |
| Balance of Profit and Loss Account | 52,996 15 3    |

£1,532,235 5 2

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

894 new Policies were issued during the year, assuring

The new Premiums on which amount to the sum of

The claims sustained during the year, including 16 endowments, were 295 in number, arising under 397 policies, and the sums payable, after deducting re-insurances,

amounted, with bonus additions, to

The income for the year of the Life Branch from premiums and interest amounted to

In the Annuity Branch 83 bonds were granted, securing annuities to the amount of £5,390 12s. 7d. yearly, for which was received by single payment the sum of

The Life Fund, now amounts to

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Advertisements for insertion in this

Number, which will have a wide

circulation in addition to that of the

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Office not later than 6 p.m. on Friday,

January 16th.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, JANUARY 10.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The coming of age of Prince EDWARD of WALES has been celebrated in the quietest possible fashion at Sandringham. None the less the English people throughout the world are united in their enthusiastic congratulations to their future King on this auspicious occasion. There is but one regret: that the opportunity has not been afforded for the public celebration of an event which is of supreme interest to the vast population of the British Empire. It is a cause for no little satisfaction that the young PRINCE is known to be in every way worthy of the loyal sympathy with which he is regarded by the English people. When in the fulness of time he accedes to the greatest heritage of this earth, and becomes the Sovereign of upwards of three hundred millions of men, there is every reason to anticipate that he will prove equal to the solemn duties and responsibilities that will devolve upon him. Despite the frivolous babble of thinly-veiled sedition, there is no reason to dread that the English people will ever be tempted to indulge in vain experiments in Republican institutions. Strange as it may appear to Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, it is far more probable that he will end his days strung up to some convenient lamp-post than realise his ambition of being President of a British Republic. But the time, it may

be hoped, is yet far distant when the young PRINCE will ascend the throne of England as Edward VIII.

The news of the death of the venerable Bishop of LONDON will be received with deep sorrow throughout the Anglican Church. It was only on Sunday that he was preaching in St. Paul's Cathedral, and on Tuesday he passed from amongst us. For sixteen years Dr. JACKSON has filled the See of London, and in the work of administration of this vast diocese has displayed an unostentatious zeal, an un-failing energy, and an invariable discretion that have won universal recognition. The translation of Dr. JACKSON from Lincoln to London was unexpected at the time, but the judicious nature of Lord BRACONSFIELD's nomination has been amply vindicated by events. It is something to have discharged the duties that devolve upon the Bishop of this great metropolis in a way that has never given occasion to hostile criticism, or even to the jealous censure of the adversaries of the Church. There may have been other occupants of the Episcopal Bench more active and more brilliant, but there have been none more devoted and more earnest. In the meantime the Church will await with no little anxiety the announcement of a successor. It must be frankly acknowledged that Mr. GLADSTONE has shown generally in his recommendations to the high offices in the Church a judgment and discrimination that demand grateful recognition. If the Bishop of TRURO were once more called upon to labour in the metropolis Churchmen would feel keen satisfaction. The claims of the Bishop of DURHAM or of the Bishop of LICHFIELD to the supervision of the Metropolitan See would also be generally acquiesced in.

The news that Mr. GLADSTONE is suffering from indisposition will call forth general sympathy, though it can excite but little surprise. The political embarrassments in which the Administration finds itself on all sides involved cannot fail to injuriously affect the sensitive temperament of the PRIME MINISTER. Even Mr. GLADSTONE's robust vanity and self-confidence cannot be proof against the conviction of failure that the course of events must day by day impress upon him. It is almost too much to hope that Mr. GLADSTONE will make the only reparation in his power for the ruin and mischief for which his policy is responsible, by retiring from a position that he has no qualifications to fill. The remarks made by his son at the rent dinner at Hawarden have raised exulting hopes throughout the country that it is to be feared will not be realised. Mr. GLADSTONE is in the habit of holding out delusive prospects of his retirement from politics which he is not given to fulfil. The extreme Radicals, in whose policy he has always been the most useful accomplice, will resist his withdrawal from office, for Mr. GLADSTONE's personal popularity with the Radical classes in the country is likely to be exceedingly useful to them at the General Election. But it is tolerably well known that to the chief colleagues of Mr. GLADSTONE in the Ministry nothing could be more welcome than the resignation of the PRIME MINISTER, and the possibility of reconstructing the Cabinet on a basis which would afford some chance that a policy might be in future pursued abroad and at home not altogether opposed to the dictates of common-sense. A great many Liberals would view with equanimity the downfall of the present Cabinet and the accession of a Conservative Ministry to power. They recognise that the interests of the Empire would gain if the management of affairs were to be withdrawn from the Ministers who have shown so conclusively their incompetence; and they think that the interests of the Liberal party would be promoted by a brief sojourn in Opposition, which would afford some chance that the follies, crimes, and blunders of Liberal government might in a degree be forgotten before the next General Election. But Mr. GLADSTONE is, after all, not likely to give an opportunity for putting these ingenious calculations to the test.

The news from Egypt continues to be of the most satisfactory kind. It is clear that the march of an English force across the desert does not present the supreme difficulty with which it was invested when it was a question of choosing the Nile route instead of proceeding to the relief of Khartoum by the way of Souakim and Berber. The question will naturally be asked why, at a vast expenditure of time and money, the journey up the Nile has been taken, only to be abandoned for a march across a desert offering similar obstacles to the progress of the troops to those that were regarded as insuperable objections



proceeding direct from Souakim by the way of Berber. Sir HERBERT STEWART marched with an advanced guard and a first convoy of stores to Gakdul, and arrived at the wells without being molested by the followers of the MAHDI. Having unloaded his stores, leaving the Guards to hold the position, he promptly returned to Korti, and has again set forth with a fresh convoy to Gakdul, and will proceed thence forthwith to the banks of the Nile, where at Shendy it is hoped that a steamer of General GORDON will be found, which will enable communications at once to be opened up with Khartoum. It remains doubtful whether any formidable resistance is to be anticipated on the part of the MAHDI. The reports of the Arab prisoners who have been taken by Sir HERBERT STEWART's flying column concur in indicating that there is little disposition to fight on the part of the tribesmen. The invasion of the desert by the English troops appears to have powerfully impressed the imagination of the natives. It may be hoped that in a very few weeks the English troops will enter Khartoum. The question of pressing interest with the English people is once more, to what purpose do the English Ministry intend to put the achievement of the English troops, and what advantages is England to gain from the large expenditure of money which the present expedition involves? To this question no satisfactory answer is thus far forthcoming. But even the present crazy Cabinet can scarcely propose to "scuttle" out of Khartoum, and deliver up Egypt again to the risk of the aggressive enterprises of the MAHDI.

### A MODERN JACK CADE.

Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN certainly appreciates the spirit of the famous maxim of DANTON, and considers that Impudence, Impudence, and above all things Impudence, should guide the conduct of "the Radical member of a Liberal Government." It is not often, however, that even Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has contrived to present so amusing an exhibition of shameless assurance as he presented to an ironical world on Monday last at Birmingham. The occasion, however, was certainly an exceptional one. A banquet was given to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN to celebrate the discomfiture of the wicked Tories who had endeavoured in the Police-courts to bring home to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and the Caucus direct complicity in the Aston-park riots, and had temporarily failed. It would have been very awkward indeed if it had been clearly demonstrated that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, either directly, or indirectly through his recognised political agents, had instigated the ruffianly assaults on Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE and Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL and those who had assembled to listen to them. It would have been still more awkward if it had been shown that the lying affidavits which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN produced in his defence in the House of Commons had been purchased, at the suggestion of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN or his agents, by his solicitors, out of the funds of the Radical Caucus. The mere possibility of such a misfortune as the disclosure of the truth with regard to the Aston-park riots was sufficient to excite consternation amongst the leaders of the Birmingham Caucus. But LARRY MACK and his associate conveniently disappeared. Mr. SCHNADHORST conveniently fell ill and went abroad for his health, though it is satisfactory to know that with the termination of the Police-court proceedings his health enables him to return home. And when a demand was made for the production of the correspondence of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN with his solicitors, which might have thrown a much-needed light on the mystery, the hysterical protests of his counsel against any such desecration of the Caucus secrets left everything in congenial obscurity. Men of the world, however, do not require to be told more than they have already learnt, and are quite able to appreciate the sincerity of the exultation which has led Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's tools and confederates, who now style themselves the Birmingham Artisans' Association, to offer their leader a banquet in commemoration of his happy deliverance from the toils that seemed to be gathering round him.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN naturally devoted a speech to indicate his delight at the collapse of the investigation into the Aston-park riots, and invited sympathy with himself as the victim of aristocratic slander. His pathetic affectation of injured innocence was admirably adapted to the particular audience he addressed, especially after dinner. But

he probably does not expect the rest of the world to regard all this seriously. In a further address, however, he made some statements and declarations that are really entitled to a considerable degree of public consideration. The rejoicing over the triumph of the Radical policy on Reform is undoubtedly sincere. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is quite in earnest in his belief that the result of the new measures of Reform will be "to speed the advent of the Radical Millennium and pave the way for the reign of 'Democracy,' and for our part we so far concur in his anticipations of the practical results of the transfer of political power that is about to be accomplished. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN points out that "To-day 'Parliament is elected by three millions of electors, of whom perhaps one-third are of the working classes. Next year a new House will come to Westminster, elected 'by five millions of men, of whom three-fifths belong to the labouring population.' This consummation Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, whose ambition depends upon the preponderance of ignorance and poverty, naturally rejoices over. To us, who consider that the aim of every Constitutional system should be to provide good government, the probable results seem nothing less than disastrous. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN loses no time in giving to the world, with his usual frank impudence, his conception of the principles that will, in the Radical Millennium which is about to be ushered in, guide the administration of affairs. He is already prepared with a policy for the Radical Ministry, of which, in the fulness of time, he expects to be at the head. To say the truth, the policy is one that is more distinguished by its boldness than its originality. It is the one that JACK CADE endeavoured to carry out in an earlier period of English history with the simple argument of force, and that now under some pleasant sophistries of language is recommended by professional demagogues, who seek to carry it into effect by legislation instead of violence. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is anxious to go back to the origin of things and the natural rights of man, and in this way he thinks he will find a defence for the policy of plunder which he trusts to carry out. He directly appeals to the cupidity and the predatory instincts of the poverty-stricken classes of the community, to whom political power is henceforward to be transferred, and as the price of their support he offers them a share in the property of the rest of the nation. JACK CADE made the same tempting proposals in a bygone period; but Mr. CHAMBERLAIN should really study the history of his great model, and take warning by his fate. If we are to go back to the natural rights of man, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN must be reminded that there is one which is likely to be resumed in the happy future which he promises—the natural right of each man to defend his life and property if Government fails to discharge the elementary duty for which it exists. It is only in a highly-civilised community that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Mr. HENRY GEORGE and other similar agitators can with impunity give expression to their incitements to robbery. In those more primitive societies where the natural rights of each man are apt to be vigorously asserted—in California a generation ago, for instance—Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's theories would be promptly disposed of by the simple methods and unanswerable arguments of Lynch Law. When Mr. CHAMBERLAIN calmly asks, "What ransom will you 'perly pay for the security it enjoys?" he must be reminded that there are other ways of obtaining security than the payment of ransom, and ways that are much more congenial to ordinary English human nature. If Mr. CHAMBERLAIN really intends to put himself at the head of a Socialist Revolution, the even tenor of his smug life of luxury is likely to be very rudely interrupted.

It would not be worth while to dwell upon the crude Communistic doctrines of a man whose life is in harsh contrast with the theories he upholds, if it were not for the fact that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is not only the "bloated capitalist" of democratic diatribes, but is a member of the Government of the country. It must be asked whether ordinary regard for political decency should not lead the other members of the Ministry to insist that the open advocacy of Socialism is incompatible with Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's tenure of a seat in the Cabinet. We presume that even in the present Ministry there are limits to the individual licence of opinion, and surely in his Birmingham speech Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has far exceeded those limits.

### THE CHURCH IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Whilst public attention is being directed with interest and anxiety to the course of events in that part of South Africa known as Bechuanaland, it seems opportune to consider what part the Church of England has hitherto played in South African politics. What has the Church done in these parts? To give an adequate reply to this question the situation must first be known and understood. The north-western portion of the Cape Colony falls within the jurisdiction of the Bishop of GRAHAMSTOWN, which terminates at the Orange River, the great natural boundary of the Colony. The region to the north of this point, in a westerly direction, is supposed to fall within the jurisdiction of the Bishop of BLOEMFONTEIN. The inhabitants of the extreme districts of the Colony in the direction named are for the most part nomad Boers, for whom the Colonial Dutch Church provides a sacramental service once in three months, and leaves them to themselves for the rest of the time. That these isolated dwellers in the wilderness have not lapsed into heathenism is matter for surprise as well as for extreme thankfulness. That the Boer of these wilds preserves his religion is due in the main to the stern tenets with which he is imbued, from the habit of daily family prayer and the punctual attendance at the selected periods of public ministration of his minister.

The few Boer heads of families who can read are more familiar with the Old Testament than with the doctrine of the New; but all cling to the open Bible as the charter of their religion. There was no opening for Church service in these districts, and the shopkeepers and traders who occupy the towns and trade-centres are for the most part Jews of foreign extract, Germans, or British subjects of low origin and inferior education. All that could be attempted in such places was a stated visit from the nearest clergyman, fixed in happier circumstances, who could baptise, marry, and probably bury during a short sojourn in the village, holding service on Sunday, and administering the Holy Communion. By such occasional ministrations the members of the Church might be kept together, and all notion of Church principles be preserved from suffocation by sheer ignorance. Until quite lately it was a most serious undertaking to attempt a journey to these remote districts, involving not merely a large pecuniary outlay, but, what was oftentimes of far more consequence, the loss of the active service of the missionary whilst en route to the scene of his labours. Happily, now the railway has been advanced to the borders of the Colony at three different points of the Great Orange River, and to-day it is possible to supply a clergyman at a short notice, or to appoint one to do duty at a given time—if only there be a man to so employ. It would seem to be in the scheme of the present Bishop of GRAHAMSTOWN to constitute a force of evangelists whom he may send from his headquarters to the outlying parts of his enormous diocese that can be reached by railway. Hopetown, the extreme north-west town on the Orange River, is such a place; and it may now be reached from any side of the Colony by means of railway trains. Passing across the river, the great desert tracts of the interior, as they used to be considered, are entered upon. Up to the time of the discovery of diamonds in this region in 1869, the country was inhabited by a degraded specimen of humanity called Kovannas, with them Griquas, and Batlapinis, who congregated round the natural fountains that are scattered at considerable distances, and lived by hunting. Amongst these tribes there were, at fixed stations, schools and preaching-places for missionaries of the London Missionary Society. Here, amidst the most repulsive barbarians, and in the face of unexampled difficulties, these devoted men laboured to impart some kind of religious knowledge and to teach the people the better way. Up to this period no clergyman of the English Church entered into this field; it was literally and truly without the globe. When the discovery of diamonds along the vast river occurred, and hundreds were attracted thither to disinter the untold wealth, Bishop GRAY of Capetown sent a clergyman to do what he could amongst the diggers; and when the Bishop of BLOEMFONTEIN (Bishop WEBB) arrived, he "took in" all that part of the world beyond the limits of his territorial jurisdiction within the Free State which comprises what has now developed into an additional province of the Cape Colony—the province of Griqualand West. The Bishop, with the demands upon him from his own diocese and from Basutoland, over which he also has supervision, did the best he could, which was to settle clergymen at Barkly and at Kimberley, and himself to make frequent visitations for confirmation and other

objects. But what are two or three single-handed men, in an area as large as France, with a mixed population of European origin and a heterogeneous collection of aborigines to labour amongst?

The Church of England has literally done nothing of itself. As a part of the national Establishment, it should accompany its sons and daughters who seek to find a new home and provide them with spiritual ministers, just as her soldiers are sent properly officered and commanded to uphold supremacy. The work of evangelisation should proceed upon a defined plan of operations, the Bishop being general, and the priests and deacons officers, to work from a base upon defined lines. Who knows what the effect of systematic operations of this character in this quarter might have been if inaugurated in 1870? Fourteen years' work with the Prayer-Book in hand would have taught the people the English language and the principles of truth and honour and loyalty to the Throne. Now we have to pay for neglect of duty in this clearly marked direction. The cry is still "Come over and 'help us,' and to-day it is extended to the country reaching to the next large river of this part of the continent, the Molopo. The area is enlarged, and Russia in Europe is approximately the size of the land we are now invited to enter. Has the Church any foothold anywhere in this *terra incognita*? Yes; one mission-station at Pokwani, among the Batlapini tribes, in charge of a devotee who has adopted the habits and manners of "his people"! Now is the time to urge the Church to accept her responsibilities, and to enter upon them with zeal. The base of operations for mission work in this quarter of South Africa is Kimberley, the diamond city, with its population of 45,000. A bishopric with an active staff of preachers, teachers, and other Churchworkers, might hope in a few years' time to effect a change of manners, habits, feelings, that would go a long way to effectually extinguish race animosities, and render this dependency a British settlement in fact as well as in name. Will the suggestion be taken up? Will the Church accept the responsibility and duty, and come forward and help?

We hear from Constantinople that the Papal delegate, Monsignore Rotelli, who is known to have the cause of Reunion between the Latin and Greek Churches much at heart, has taken the unprecedented step of paying a formal visit of congratulation to the new Ecumenical Patriarch of the Holy Orthodox Church. Monsignore Rotelli, by command of Pope Leo XIII., is also engaged in holding a series of conferences with high officials of the Eastern Church.

### Reviews.

#### A FINE OLD SOLDIER.\*

A most valuable contribution to military literature is supplied by the very interesting book which records the *Early Military Life of Sir George Napier*. He was one of a family of heroes, and though perhaps less known to the outside world than his brothers, the famous Sir Charles, the conqueror of Scinde, and Sir William, the historian of the Peninsular War, he was not unworthy to take rank beside them. With the exception of the Lawrences it would be difficult to find another family which has contributed in one generation so many names to our English muster-roll of fame, and our only cause for surprise and regret is that the biography of Sir George should have been so long in making its public appearance. Now that it has appeared we cannot doubt but that it will be cordially welcomed, not only by the Army in general, but by the outside public. For while it conveys in the most impressive manner many most useful lessons for the young officer, it also contains a great deal of most useful matter for the historian of the period of which it treats. To read it is like reading one of the Erckmann-Chatrian novels, and we are introduced to the behind-the-scenes aspect of the Peninsula War. A perfect storehouse of interesting anecdotes is supplied in it, and though originally written merely for the instruction and amusement of the author's own children, it appeals most powerfully to the sympathies of a wider and a more promiscuous audience. Sir George was a gallant soldier of a type more familiar in old days than at the present time, and though perhaps he would have found it difficult to pass the various examinations which now bar the way against the aspirant to military glory, he was a splendid specimen of the British officer in the pre-examination period. The book is appropriately dedicated to the 52nd Light Infantry, in which "glorious regiment" Sir George Napier received his education as a soldier and passed the happiest years of his military career. We do not know under what barbaric form of local nomenclature that "glorious regiment" now passes, but we must hope that as the rose by any other name would smell as sweet, so the gallant 52nd will under its new name maintain its ancient reputation.

\* *Passages in the Early Military Life of General Sir George T. Napier, K.C.B.* Written by Himself. Edited by his son, General W. C. E. Napier.—London: John Murray, 1884.



tion. That reputation was during the Peninsula War at its highest, and Sir George dwells with pardonable pride on the doings of the Light Division, and specially of that portion of it with which he was most closely associated. There is a pleasing freshness and a naïveté of tone about his reminiscences, and ever and anon he turns aside from the immediate course of his narrative to point the moral of his story and to draw out in simple but most effective language the lessons which he wishes his children to learn from his personal experiences. He took part in the memorable retreat on Corunna and in many a hard-fought battle in the Peninsula, winding up with the famous field which, in the language of Byron, "both professed to gain," though the French profession of a victory at Toulouse is completely disposed of by his narrative.

Sir George commenced his military career in the Dragoons, and it was not without a pang that he gave up his horses and went into the infantry when transferred at his father's urgent request to the 46th Foot, from which he was shortly afterwards appointed to the 52nd Regiment, with which his name is most intimately associated. By the kindly aid of a true friend, Lord Frederick Bentinck, who without saying a word to young Napier went off to London and lodged the regulation price of his commission in the agents' hands, he became in 1804 a captain, and in 1806, when Sir John Moore was appointed second in command in Sicily, the 52nd Regiment followed him with other troops. Young Napier had a strong, we might almost say a violent, admiration for Sir John Moore, and while bearing a fit and eloquent tribute to the great qualities of that general, he did not hesitate to adopt and emphasise the unfounded charges made by his friends against Mr. Canning and Lord Castlereagh of having for personal motives sacrificed him. Sir John's fame stands high enough to be able to dispense with the adventitious aid of a representation of him as a victim to political exigencies. Napier acted as his aide-de-camp, and tells many interesting anecdotes of his chief, from among which we may make this quotation:—

One day I was going to purchase a sabre, when Sir John Moore told me not to do so, but to buy a straight sword, sharp on both edges. The reason he gave was this: when a colonel, he commanded a storming party at the fort of Calvi, in Corsica, and just as he mounted the top of the breach and was forcing his way in, a French grenadier, one of those defending the entrance, was on the point of plunging his bayonet into him, when Moore, seeing his only chance of life was to run his sword through the man, he did so and killed him on the spot; now if he had not had a straight sword, but a sabre, he would not have been able to run the grenadier through the body, and would have been killed himself. So I did as he desired me, and purchased a straight one; but, thank God, I was lucky enough never to use my sword in the same way as Sir John Moore was forced to use his (and he told me he never should forget the horrid sensation it gave him when drawing the sword out of the man's body, and that it was always a painful recollection to him), although I did command a storming party, as you shall hear in due time.

The storming party which he did command was that which attacked Ciudad Rodrigo, and he gives a most stirring account of that memorable assault, in the course of which he received a grape-shot which smashed his elbow and part of his arm, rendering amputation necessary. But this is to anticipate, and before we come to it we have to dwell on the very interesting account of the retreat on Corunna which is given in this volume. It gives, as we have implied, a striking picture of Sir John Moore himself, and contains not a few anecdotes which bring vividly before the eyes of the reader the events of that memorable campaign. Of the author's own experiences we may quote the following:—

As I was riding along the position in the morning with some orders in a great hurry, and as I passed that part of the line where your uncle Charles, who commanded the 50th Regiment, and his friend Major Stanhope were eating a famous dish of "Irish stew" for breakfast, these two fellows, knowing that I dared not stop, ran up and put this savoury dish to my nose by way of tantalising me, who had been on horseback nearly all night and had not eaten anything for many hours, and then shouted out, "You dainty dog, you can't eat Irish stew!" This will show you what merry fellows soldiers are, for we were then every moment expecting to be attacked by the enemy, and knew not if any one of us three should ever eat any dish again. There is an old song and a very true one which begins, "How morriely we live that soldiers be!" and it is one you should always put in practice whenever you can. Nothing like good and joyous spirits in a soldier. They will carry you a long day's march, for he that is gay and lively never flags.

At night the army was ordered to be put, as silently as possible, in movement, and we recommenced our rapid retreat, leaving the pickets to keep up the fires all through the night in order to deceive the enemy and gain several hours' march upon him, which we accordingly did, and the pickets joined us by a forced march before we halted for the night. The men, however, being very much disappointed at not having a battle, and being fatigued with the length and rapidity of the retreat which was absolutely necessary to save the army from destruction, became totally disorganised, and disregarding all discipline and throwing off the authority of their officers, detached themselves in large parties, straggling, drinking, and pillaging in the most shameful and infamous manner. I saw several fellows quit their ranks and go off across the fields to plunder, and on riding up to one of them and ordering him to return instantly to his regiment, he swore he would not be ordered by me, and presented his rifle at my head; but luckily for me it missed fire, or I should have finished my career on the spot. I ought to have shot him with my pistol on the instant, or to have brought him a prisoner to the commander-in-chief, who would have ordered him to be shot, but I felt a dislike to have a fellow-creature put to death on my account. Now this was very wrong, as I should never have permitted my personal feelings to interfere with my duty to the service; and most probably, had I got that fellow shot, as he richly deserved, it would have been a great means of restoring discipline to the army, and might have frightened many soldiers from committing such crimes, and saved many a man's life being taken by the enraged peasants, or being cut down or made prisoners by the enemy's cavalry.

Another incidental glimpse of the conqueror of Scinde is afforded in the following passage:—

You should learn from the conduct of the French to

your uncle that to treat your enemy when in your power with every respect and kindness is the true characteristic of a brave man. None but the worthless coward insults or maltreats his prisoner; and, as the French officers are as brave as any men upon earth, so their conduct was humane and generous to one whom the fortune of war had placed in their power. Marshal Ney, at the risk of Napoleon's displeasure, gave your uncle leave to go home on his parole not to serve against the French till he should be regularly exchanged, and as there were a few wounded soldiers and their wives and children who had been left behind, I believe about ten or fifteen individuals, Marshal Ney let them all return with him, and gave them a dollar each to find themselves with little comforts on board for the voyage. Thus from first to last nothing could be better or more honourable than his and Marshal Soult's conduct to my brother. In a few days he arrived in England, and your grandmother received a scrap of paper upon which was written: "Hudibras, you lie! you lie! for I have been in battle slain, and I live to fight again!" Upon getting this note, which was written from Plymouth, your aunts Louisa and Emily and myself set off to meet him, and, arriving in Exeter, who should we spy on top of the coach but your uncle in his old red coat, out at elbows, and covered with dust; his face pale, and his beard and whiskers as black as coal; in short, he looked like an old Chelsea pensioner. You will guess we made much of him, and returned to London immediately; and my dear mother was once more as happy as she deserved to be for the resignation and calm sorrow with which she submitted to God's will when she first heard of her son being killed, for no mother was more devotedly attached to her sons than she was. Thus you see that the mercy of God is unbounded, and that, if you bear all the dispensations of Providence with truly pious resignation and humble submission, you will not fail to reap the reward of your conduct either in this world or the next.

This is but one out of many instances in which the old soldier, fighting his battles o'er again, deduces from his narrative lessons for the instruction of his children. He specially impresses on them the importance of discipline and of other soldierly qualities not, perhaps, sufficiently regarded in the present day. He is very strong against all grumbling or criticism, and, as the editor suggests in a footnote, "Our own correspondent would have had a rough time of it under Sir George Napier or Sir Charles either."

The second period of our hero's military history was passed under a yet more distinguished commander, and highly as he speaks of Sir John Moore, he is yet more enthusiastic in his description of the immortal Wellington. He does not describe in detail the various occurrences and battles that took place during these campaigns, referring his children, for whom he wrote, to the admirable *History of the Peninsula War* which has been written by his brother William; but he confines himself, as it were, to the more behind-the-scenes view of the struggle, giving those graphic and lifelike touches which the historian is, from the extent of his canvas, often compelled to omit. We had marked many passages for extract, but the demands on our space only allow us to quote a few of them. The first relates to his share in the campaign in the north of Portugal:—

One night, the post occupied by the Rifle Corps was surprised, the enemy killing the sentry at the bridge and stealing unawares on the picket or advanced post. They were half-way up the bank or hill where the body of the regiment was, under Colonel Sidney Beckwith, before the alarm was given, and the regiment had only time to seize their arms and accoutrements, and ran out in their shirts, with their belts and cartridge boxes slung over them; and in this ridiculous dress, with old Beckwith at their head, in his dressing-gown, red nightcap, and slippers, they fell upon the enemy and completely annihilated him, very few getting across the river again. This was the first, and of course the last, surprise that any part of the Light Brigade ever had; for from that period to the Battle of Toulouse no man in the army can say he ever saw a light division regiment negligent on its post; and in this instance of "Barbe de Porco" the Rifle Corps, which always was, and ever will be, one of the finest regiments in the service, made up by their gallantry and steadiness, and by well thrashing the enemy, for any little laxity of discipline which had occasioned the surprise, for surprise it was, there's no denying that.

One day I was on picket at a ford in front of the village of Gallejos, when I observed a general officer and his staff coming down the road on the opposite bank towards the ford. I called out across the river, which was narrow, to desire them to go back, and at the same time drew up my men and told the French general that I would fire at him if he persisted in coming down to the ford. They seemed to hold my threat in perfect contempt and still moved down; upon which I fired, and shot one of their horses. This had the desired effect, and they wheeled about and went back at a trot. The general, who was your uncle Charles' old friend, Marshal Ney, rode a white horse; and as I was not aware at the time that it was he, I made my men do all they could to shoot him, as it is always a good thing to shoot your enemy's general, as it must make a great confusion in his army.

Another day, being on picket at the same place, where opposite to us the enemy had now also a picket, some of the French soldiers asked my leave to come across and get tobacco from our men, as they had none, and could not get any, in consequence of the siege. I allowed two of them to come, who immediately stripped off their clothes and swam across (for I would not let them try the ford), got the tobacco, told us all the news from France, and returned quite happy. Now this was all wrong, because, when a man is placed in charge of a post, he should never permit his enemy to come within reach of being able to observe what he is about, the strength of his party, or the nature of his defenses. The safest plan is to keep him at a distance, and to allow of no familiarity or intercourse between your men and the enemy's. No harm did happen by these men coming over to my picket, but there might have been danger from it, because the officer might have disguised himself as a private, and come over as such, and, being naked, I could not possibly tell him from a soldier; and when once over, he would have seen the strength of my post and the number of my men, and returned fully aware of all my weak parts of defence, and might have made some attempt during the night to surprise us.

In the next an idea is given of the horrors of war:—

These wretched people, to the amount of thousands, had every article of furniture and food taken from them, and starved by hundreds daily! A French officer who was made prisoner during this retreat, and to whom I had it in my power to be kind, told me that after a few weeks from their first arrival at the Lines an order was given by Massena that every captain must provide his company with provisions in the best manner he could, which was generally done as follows. A captain and his company went off into the country, and on coming to a peasant's hut or cabin he demanded provisions, upon

which the miserable father and his wife and half-starving children went down on their knees supplicating the officer not to take the miserable pittance they had left for their sole support. But this had no effect, and the father was told that he should be hung up to a beam; and if he made a sign, that was agreed upon, that he would show where all his provisions were concealed, he would be instantly cut down, but if not, there he would hang till dead. Well, the wretched man, looking at his starving wife and helpless children, would determine on dying rather than tell where the little he had for their existence was hid. He was hung up accordingly, when in a few seconds the natural love of life and the shrieks of his distracted wife and children overcame the resolution to die. He gives the signal, is cut down, recovers his senses, and points out, with despair depicted in his haggard countenance, the spot where all he has to keep life in his wife and children is deposited, and he sees the ruthless plunderers depart without sparing him one morsel. But is this all! No! In a few hours afterwards comes a fresh party of soldiers in search of provisions, and finds this unfortunate family nearly exhausted, but will give no credit to their story of what had already taken place some time before, but instantly resort to the same barbarous measure of hanging up the father, who again, urged by the hopes of preserving his life a few minutes longer, makes the preconcerted signal. But, alas! when cut down, not being able to produce what has already been the prey of former robbers, is seized by the merciless soldiers and either shot or hanged, with the certainty that his miserable wife and children must perish with hunger. The French officer who told me this said it had often happened to him to witness such scenes during the stay of Marshal Massena's army opposite our lines, and very fairly said, "But what could we do? If we did not find the provisions we must have starved ourselves; and you know soldiers will not do that, nor anyone else if he can possibly avoid it by any means." He was a good-natured man, and had great pity for the Portuguese nation, and looked upon the war as most abominable and unjust; and he often told me he was heartily tired of war and all its horrid attributes, but that it was not in his power to leave the army and return to France. He had asked leave, but was refused, and seemed very glad to have been taken prisoner, hoping that there might be some chance of getting home.

The last extract for which we can find room shows the Iron Duke in that light in which those who knew him best are most anxious to represent him. It is, we must add, only one of many anecdotes recorded by Sir George Napier to the credit of our great captain:—

I must here mention an anecdote which was told me by the best authority—one of the persons concerned. Lord March was conveyed to the town of Orthes to a quarter there, as it was made the hospital for the wounded. The next night after he was wounded he was in so dangerous a state that Dr. Hare of the 43rd, who attended him, had given positive orders that no noise should be made, and that as he should himself remain up all night with Lord March, if anyone wanted to come into the room they should not speak, but be as quiet as possible. About the middle of the night, as Dr. Hare was sitting dozing in a chair opposite Lord March's bed, who had fallen asleep, the door of the room gently opened and a figure in a white cloak and military hat walked up to the bed, drew the curtains quietly aside, looked steadily for a few seconds on the pale countenance before him, then leant over, stooped his head, and pressed his lips on the forehead of Lord March, heaved a deep sigh, and turned to leave the room, when the doctor, who had anxiously watched every movement, beheld the countenance of Wellington! his cheeks wet with tears. He had ridden many a mile that night, alone, to see his favourite young soldier, the son of his dearest friend. He then returned to his headquarters, having first made every inquiry respecting the sick and wounded and given such orders as were necessary. Does this betray a want of feeling in the Duke? It needs no comment; the fact speaks for itself.

Though our review has extended beyond the usual limits, we have still left much unnoticed which is worthy of notice, and we must content ourselves with recommending this little volume most heartily to the attention of all those who love to read a tale of doughty deeds, written in the truest spirit of patriotic and soldierly devotion.

#### SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

The January number of *Longman's Magazine* contains the conclusion of Mrs. Oliphant's novel, and the commencement of a new novel by Mr. William Black. Of these the latter is the more to our taste, as we must own to an unwonted sense of weariness and drag about the former. We are such thoroughgoing admirers of Mrs. Oliphant that it is not a little against the grain to make such an admission; but truth will out, and it is with a genuine sense of relief that we come to an end of "Madam." Though it has been long drawn out it ends somewhat abruptly at last, and we should have been glad to have heard something more about Rivers, who was one of the most interesting of the *dramatis personæ*. It is pleasant to turn from the oppressive atmosphere which we have so long had to breathe in the company of the Trevanion family to the pure fresh Highland air in which Mr. Black so much delights. His hero, so far as we have at present gone, is a benevolent American, who delights to play Lord Bountiful, and fancies that he has discovered a *rara avis* in the young Highland keeper who attends him on the important occasion of his killing his first salmon. It is probable that the young keeper is the real hero of the story, and he possesses the advantage for that post of being in love with a charming young lady who is considerably above him in position, and her unconscious familiarity shows how far she is from realising that she is the object of his devotion. The strange story of "Sir Jocelyn's Cap" is complete in the present number, which also contains one of Mr. Proctor's striking astronomical studies treating of Jupiter and Saturn under the title of "Two Sunlike Planets," and a pleasant sketch of a type of character now, we fear, fast vanishing from our family life is supplied by Lady Catherine Milnes Gaskell in her "Servants Old and New."

The *Cornhill* also begins the year with a new story, and, as far as can be judged from a first instalment, Mr. D. Christie Murray's "Rainbow Gold" promises well. There is considerable power shown in the opening chapters, and we shall look forward with much interest to the fortunes of Job Round, which are left at present

at the lowest ebb. Mr. Payn's novel, which is approaching its end, is not so satisfactory, and we care less for "The Talk of the Town," than for any of the writer's previous works. But the present instalment of it is one of the best which we have had, and our sympathies are aroused on behalf of Margaret, if not on behalf of her lover, by the tragic fortune of Vortigern. We propose to deal shortly with the novel as a whole, so pass on to the other contents of the January number of the *Cornhill*. Of these the most popular will be the very fascinating sketch of "Charles Dickens at Home," contributed by his daughter, which shows the great novelist in his most amiable and attractive light; but the articles on the "Ant" and on "Foo Chow" are very respectable padding, and indeed may be read with so much interest that they rise above the level of ordinary magazine padding.

The indefatigable Editor of the *Cornhill* reappears in the pages of *Good Words*, to which he has contributed the opening chapters of a new novel, "The Luck of the Darrells," which promises far better than "The Talk of the Town." Miss Saunders also commences a new novel in this popular periodical, entitled "The New Manager," of which we need only say at present that it has to do, not, as the reader might suppose, with a theatre, but with an old-established brewery business. For those who require more substantial food, Mr. Thomas Hughes supplies a thoughtful paper on "Co-operation in England," with which it is interesting to compare the editor's "Sins of Cheapness." In "Up the Himalayas" we have one of those pleasant chapters of travel for which *Good Words* is famous, and we are brought nearer home in the admirably illustrated "Pictures from Whitley." Natural history is represented by Mr. Wood's "How Insects Breathe," and the Duke of Argyll appears in a new light as the contributor of some verses, not remarkable in any other way except for their dual origin, on a ring-plover found dead in Tyree. Nor do we care much for the other specimens of poetry in the present number, contributed by Mr. Alexander Anderson and Miss Sarah Doudney, though the latter's poem, "When the Boat Comes Home," is set off by a very clever wood-engraving. Mr. Picton adds his tribute to the many which have been called forth by Professor Fawcett's untimely death; and Mr. Haweis commences a series of papers on the "Religions of the World," in which he proposes to demonstrate after his own peculiar fashion "the essential unity and solidarity of the religious consciousness in man."

The main attraction of the January number of the *Magazine of Art* is the very beautiful reproduction of John Downman's charming drawing of Lady Maria Waldegrave, one of the three sisters who figure in Reynolds's well-known group. Very few of the portrait drawings of this artist—who, as Mr. Sidney Colvin well observes, "is not one of the greater lights of English eighteenth-century art, but among the lesser lights is one of the most attractive"—come into the market, but the specimen which figures as the frontispiece of the current number forms part of Sir Richard Cunliffe's collection, recently purchased by the British Museum. We do not care so much for Mr. Brownall's illustration to Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse's graceful little seventeenth-century poem "In Arcady" as for some of the less ambitious subjects treated in the present number, as for example, the excellent sketch of German school life engraved from Herr Schulz. Mr. Pettie's house at Hampstead is the "Artist's Home" selected for description this month; and the artistic ramble which we have learned to expect in the *Magazine of Art* takes us, on the present occasion, to a corner of Brittany, which furnishes the subject for some admirable pen and pencil illustrations by Mr. King. That strange American artist, Vedder, whose weird imaginations are not so well known in England as they deserve to be, is introduced in an attractive sketch by Miss A. M. Robinson, who has selected two remarkable drawings of the Pleiades and of the Throne of Saturn, from the forthcoming edition of Omar Khayyam's *Rubaiyat*, as best exemplifying his peculiar style. By a curious coincidence another drawing of Vedder's, that of the Phœnyx, is one of the illustrations selected for reproduction in the criticism of Mr. Linton's *History of Wood Engraving in America*, with which the January number of this admirable periodical concludes. Very different in style, but possessing a considerable attraction of their own, are the Euphorion pictures which illustrate Pompeii in black and white, and the two admirable portraits of Coquelin which accompany a somewhat despairing article on the present position of the Théâtre Français.

We wonder how many of the English readers of the *Century* ever heard of Edward Everett Hale, of whom a very striking portrait, almost Rembrandtish in its effect, forms the frontispiece to the present number. This is in itself sufficient to interest us in the writer whose personality is so graphically presented to our notice, even without the eulogistic critique of him supplied by Mr. Kennedy in that tone of extravagant admiration which American critics are wont to employ when speaking of their less distinguished countrymen. This is the only biographical sketch in the present number; but recent American history is represented by two interesting papers, traversing, however, too much of the same ground, or rather the same water—"Recollections of Foote and his Gunboats" and "Operations of the 'Western Flotilla.'" The latter contains some very effective illustrations, and a most characteristic portrait of Admiral Foote himself, the hero of the former paper. Mr. Smalley describes pleasantly the Kabrosel country, which is the reserve of the Flathead Indians in North-western Montana, and the original inhabitants of the



country also furnish a theme for some admirable illustrations to some not so good verses, telling how Squire Coyote brought fire to the Cabroos. But a social problem more difficult than that of dealing with the Red Indian is treated by Mr. Cable in "The Freedman's Case in Equity," a remarkable paper when we consider the source from which it proceeds and the natural prejudices of the accomplished novelist himself. At the same time we would rather have had him represented by an instalment of one of his novels, such as "Dr. Sevier," which was so great an attraction in last year's issue of the *Century*. Its place has been taken by a characteristic story by Mr. W. D. Howells, who, by the way, in one of the "Open Letters" which are always a feature of the *Century*, defends, or rather justifies, some anachronisms with which he has been charged in the course of it. Fiction is also represented in the present number by an instalment of Miss Litchfield's "Knight of the Black Forest," and one of those amusing sketches of American artist life of which we have already had several under the same signature of "Ivory Black." Nor should we omit to notice among the attractions of the present number the very interesting paper on recent architecture in America, which has a profusion of illustrations, from which we would specially select for praise the Tower of Trinity Church, Boston, which is a fine subject admirably treated by the engraver.

We always, when we receive a new number of the *Monthly Packet*, turn with much interest to the "Cameos of English History." That in the January number is of special value, giving, as it does, a vindication of Archbishop Laud from the ignorant abuse to which his memory has been so often subjected, and pointing out once again the deep debt of gratitude which English Churchmen owe to him for the prevention of their Church from falling into mere Puritanism, and forgetting her Catholicity. We fear, however, that to most readers there is more attraction in the less grave and weighty contents of one of the most deservedly popular of our periodicals, and there is always in the *Monthly Packet* an ample supply of wholesome and attractive fiction. Three stories are going on in it at present, of which our favourite, for which, like the "Cameos," we are indebted to the indefatigable editor, is "Two Sides of the Shield," one of those delightful pictures of family life in the production of which Miss Yonge is without a rival. We do not care so much for Miss Christabel Coleridge's "Lot with a Crook in It," as the leading incident, the uncertainty which of the two boys is the real son of the house, leads to disagreeable complications. The recollections of Marie Cufaude teach history pleasantly, and "An Evening Outlook" does the same for astronomy; but we are old-fashioned enough not to care much for the "Lessons of Elementary Physiology," which hardly seem in keeping with the *Monthly Packet*. The useful papers on "Preparation of Prayer-Book Lessons" are continued, that for the present month dealing with the deprecations in the Litany. Nor must we omit to notice a touching biographical sketch of Padre Tomasso Pendola, who did so much for the education of deaf mutes, and a really delightful paper on "Some Dear Dogs," by the author of "Friends in Fur and Feathers," which, with the usual Spider Subjects, make up an admirable number of an old and valued friend, which we are glad to see holding its own so well among so large a mass of younger competitors.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

*The Rivals of the Cornfield* (Griffith and Farran) is a very nice little book, relating in an attractive form the sayings and doings of a party of children who play in the cornfield, and also those of the wheatears and poppies that grow there and of the frogs and tadpoles which inhabit the neighbouring pond. There are some fairy queens, too, who make their appearance every now and then, and talk both amusingly and well, so that there is plenty of amusement within the pretty red covers. We need not add that some good lessons are quietly slipped in without any sermonising on the author's part or priggishness of the heroes and heroines.

*Before I Began to Speak* is an amusing little skit, which professes to be an autobiographical sketch by a baby. It at the same time conveys a good deal of useful information to young mothers in the way of what to avoid in the treatment of their youthful offspring.

*Good Stories* is the not inappropriate title of a volume received from Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton, and Co. Of the thirteen stories therein told the majority are certainly good in every sense of the word, though with regard to here and there one the word is not so completely applicable. Certainly each tale conveys a good moral, and the volume may be placed in the hands of young people with the assurance that in its perusal good wholesome instruction will be imparted. We may add that each tale is accompanied by a coloured illustration, but in many cases the pictures are very indifferent.

*Off to California* (Wells Gardner and Co.) is a story of adventure adapted from the Flemish of Hendrik Conscience. It follows the fortunes of three friends, who, seized with the desire to become suddenly rich, leave home and friends to encounter dangers, difficulties, and terrors in their search for gold. After being exposed to every sort of danger they repent their rashness, and settle down to quiet, peaceful industry. A good tone pervades the story throughout, and it is one with which boys in particular will be delighted.

*The Christian Worker*, which is published by Messrs. Cassell and Co. in connection with the Manchester and Salford Boys' and Girls' Refuges and Children's Aid Society, is a very agreeable

record of work among destitute and outcast children. We are told that its monthly issues have already attained a wide circulation, and that the tokens of practical sympathy which it has evoked are many. This is not surprising, for such labour of love is sure to meet with the encouragement it deserves. The contents of this interesting work should ensure its popularity in every household.

#### Correspondence.

##### THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN'S RESIGNATION.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—The sentiments to which expression is given in the leading article on the Bishop of Lincoln which appeared in your last issue will win the hearty appreciation of every true Churchman throughout the world. It will indeed be difficult to find a man to adequately fill the position about to be vacated by the honoured Prelate, who has for sixteen years laboured in the extensive diocese of Lincoln.

The period covered by the Bishop of Lincoln's Episcopate has been an eventful one for the English Church, and he has taken a leading part in all the great religious questions of the time. The doctrine and discipline of the Church have ever found in him a staunch and consistent defender against the increasing and persistent attacks of Rationalist and Puritan factions. It will remain recorded in the history of the Church in England, that when others among her rulers failed, or faltered, or vacillated, one prelate there was who, to his everlasting honour, remained faithful to his Sacred Trust, the deposit of the Faith, and that was Christopher Wordsworth, Bishop of Lincoln. I need not recount here in detail the many occasions on which he has stood forward to vindicate the principles of the English Church and to assert the Catholicity of her position. In books and pamphlets, in Pastoral Letters to his flock, in Episcopal Charges, in addresses delivered at diocesan gatherings, in speeches in his place in Convocation and in the House of Lords, this was always the object he set before him. In the latter assembly he commanded the respectful attention due to his high personal character and attainments, and on all Church questions he spoke with a weight and authority second to that of no other occupant of the Episcopal bench. The style of his oratory was grave and solid, and marked by a scholarly refinement and polish but too rarely met with in these days. His last speech in the House of Lords was delivered, if I remember rightly, on the Third Reading of the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill last year—a measure to which, it is unnecessary to say, the Bishop has for years offered the most strenuous and uncompromising opposition. In regard to political questions Dr. Wordsworth is far too clear-headed a man ever to have fallen a victim to the prevalent delusion of supposing that it is possible to reconcile the essential principles of Liberalism with loyalty to the Church. He has always firmly adhered to the old and well-tried alliance between the Church and the Tory party. Yet the Bishop of Lincoln's Conservatism is of a type that upholds equally the Constitutional rights of the Church and those of the State, and no more sturdy opponent of Erastianism could possibly be found. Dr. Wordsworth's position in the English Church is perhaps best summed up as that of the most thorough representative living in our own day of the noble traditions of Jeremy Taylor and Laud, of Andrewes and Juxon.

The Bishop of Lincoln will be remembered, however, not only as the doughty and untiring champion of the Church against her foes within and without, but also as the efficient administrator of a vast diocese, in the long and illustrious roll of whose Bishops it is not too much to say that there is no more distinguished name than his own. While ruling over and tending his flock, he has not forgotten those who, chiefly through no fault of theirs, have been led away from their allegiance to the authority of the One Church of God. In the annals of his Episcopate there is nothing that does more credit to Dr. Wordsworth than the overtures he made nine years ago to the Wesleyan body. It is true that they failed at the time to produce any practical result; and yet it may well be that they are destined to bear fruit hereafter. One other great service to the Church will always remain specially identified with the name of Christopher Wordsworth. I mean his *Commentary* on Holy Scripture. Amongst such as prefer the passing novelties of modern opinion to the trusty traditions of holy men of old, this great work is, no doubt, held in light esteem. But those, on the other hand, who stand fast by the methods of expounding Holy Scripture by which during many centuries the Catholic Church has been instructed and edified, and who accept the doctrines of the Catholic Fathers and Doctors rather than the vain imaginings and foolish theories of self-sufficient Rationalist "critics," will prize Dr. Wordsworth's Bible *Commentary* as enshrining much that is valuable in the Scriptural expositions of the devout writers of ancient times. The Bishop of Lincoln need desire no better memorial than this. We must all hope that in the increased leisure which his withdrawal from diocesan cares will bring with it Dr. Wordsworth may still be able to bestow upon the Church the benefit of his great learning. He will at any rate take with him into his retirement the deep veneration and affectionate respect, not only of his own flock, but of the whole Church of England.

Yours faithfully,

ANGLICANUS.

#### LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The *Athenæum* states that the first history of a territorial regiment is to be brought out by Major Raikes, under the title of *Roll of the Officers of the York and Lancaster Regiment*. The three battalions of the regiment consist of what are better known as the 65th and 84th Regiments of the Line and 3rd West York Light Infantry Militia. The work will contain the services of all the officers of the regiment, from the date of formation of each battalion to January, 1885, and will comprise upwards of 2,000 names.

Mr. H. H. Johnston has returned from the Kilimanjaro fully satisfied with the climate, the inhabitants, and his collections. His residence on the slope of the mountain extended altogether over six months, and during part of that period his camp was pitched at an elevation of 11,000ft., whence he made repeated excursions up to a total height of 18,200ft. The summit, which rises to a height of 18,681ft., might have been scaled had the native carriers been able to face the cold and mountain sickness. Elephants and buffaloes range up to a height of 14,000ft. while the lynx is common between 8,000 and 13,000ft.

According to the *Academy* Mr. J. H. Middleton has written the article on "Raphael" for the forthcoming volume of the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

Messrs. Richard Bentley and Son will publish in the course of the present month an English edition of Dr. Gindely's *History of the Thirty Years' War*, translated from the original by Professor Ten Broeck.

The analytical table of the book issues of the year 1884, which we give according to custom in our present issue, shows an increase of 228 on 1883, or, if we simply take the new books and exclude the new editions, the increase is exactly 100. This, although not equal to the rise in number in 1883 as compared with 1882, is at least sufficient to show that there has been no backward movement during the twelve months. Of the total issues of new books theology stands at the head with 724 volumes, more than one-sixth; juvenile works and tales stand second with 603, about one-eighth; educational, classical, and philological books 543, about one-ninth; history, biography, &c., 490, more than one-tenth; books on the arts and sciences and illustrated works, 432, one-eleventh; novels, tales, and other fiction, 408, more than one-eleventh; year-books and volumes of serials 323, one-fifteenth; voyages, travels, and geographical works, 236, one-twentieth; pamphlets, sermons, and miscellaneous works, 208, one twenty-third; and then with less than 200 volumes come poetry and the drama, 179; law, jurisprudence, &c., 163; medicine, surgery, &c., 160; and belles lettres, essays, &c., also 160. Comparing the new works of 1884 with those of 1883 the greatest increase is in books on the arts and sciences—a rise of 78; next stands history and biography with a rise of 76; then come novels, tales, and other fiction with an increase of 59; poetry and the drama with a growth of 34; voyages and travels with a rise of 26. The increase, on the whole, is counterbalanced by a falling off of 138 in the issues of juvenile works and tales, and of 96 in belles lettres; the only other classes in which there is a reduction being the educational, classical, and philological works, which show a small reduction of 13, and the medical works with a diminution of 3. In the new editions the issues of 1884 show an increase of 123 on those of 1883, including a rise of 60 in the novels, 32 in law and jurisprudence, 22 in arts and sciences, 35 in poetry and the drama, and 31 in belles lettres; but there was a reduction of 44 in juvenile works, and several other slight alterations.—*The Publisher's Circular*.

Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to present to the funds of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, through Sir Henry Ponsonby, K.C.B., a donation of £20. Her Majesty has been the Patron of the Society since the year 1868.

Captain Burton is coming home in the spring, and will bring with him three volumes ready for the press of his version of the *Arabian Nights*. He has got as far as the sixth volume with the first draft of his translation.

We learn from the *Athenæum* that in the Salt Library, Stafford, is a MS. return from all the dioceses of the Province of Canterbury, which forms a complete religious census of the year 1676. Each parish returns, through the clergyman, the number of "Conformists, Papists, and Nonconformists" over the age of sixteen. The Derbyshire portion of this return will be printed in the forthcoming volume of the *Transactions* of the county Archaeological Society. It is supposed that this return, of a date when Macaulay and others deplore the lack of population statistics, has hitherto escaped any but local observation.

Mr. T. H. Cohen is composing a new cantata, entitled *The Sleeping Beauty*, for the next Birmingham Festival, and also a symphony for the autumn series of Richter Concerts.

The London Musical Society promise, under the direction of Mr. Barnby, before the season is over, performances of Schumann's *The Minstrel's Curse*, written in 1852, Rheinberger's *Christoforis*, Dvorak's *Legenden*, and Draescke's *Requiem*.

*Les Manteaux Noirs* will be played for a short season at the Avenue Theatre on and after the 17th inst.

Miss Florence St. John's forthcoming first appearance at the Empire Theatre, under Mr. Hollingshead's management, will be in a new comic opera in three acts, entitled *Venice*; or, *The Lady of the Locket*. The book is written by Mr. H. Hamilton, and the music composed by Mr. W. Fullerton.

It is announced that Mr. Augustus Harris has undertaken the management of the Alexandra Palace Theatre from the 31st of March.

President White, of Cornell University, United States, reports that the number of instructors in this prosperous University is 54, and the whole number of students during the last academic year 461, being an increase of 77 in two years. Of these 414 are men and 47 women. There are 15 courses of study, those in the arts and sciences being most patronised. There were in all 176 State students instructed free of charge during the year. The University library contains, including pamphlets, 65,500 volumes, and is constantly being enlarged. The productive endowment is 3,700,000dols.; the value of University property, excluding the Fiske estate now in the

Courts, in western lands is 4,900,000dols.; and the total value of University property is 7,300,000dols., or £1,460,000. The total income during the year was 217,700dols., and the surplus after all expenditure about 5,000dols.

The Oswestry Musical Festival was held on Monday, in the Powis Hall, Oswestry. The shops were closed and the day was observed as a general holiday. The prize for the best essay upon the desirability of adopting the Free Libraries Act and establishing a museum for Oswestry was awarded to Mr. E. J. George, Oswestry. In the juvenile choir competition (subject, Smart's "Wood Nymphs") three choirs competed, and the prize was won by the Oswestry Philharmonic Choir, conducted by Mr. Joseph Davies. In the soprano solo competition, Miss Lizzie Ellis, of Oswestry, was best out of four competitors; and in the solo for male voices there was only one candidate, Mr. Joseph Ellis, of Oswestry, and only a portion of the prize was awarded. In the chief choral competition of the afternoon meeting (subject, Caldicot's "Winter Days") the competing choirs were Lodge and Bronygarth Choir, Oswestry Britannia Choir, and Chirk Choral Union. Dr. Rogers, who spoke very highly of the competition, assigned the prize to the Lodge and Bronygarth Choir, conducted by Mr. H. M. Hughes.

Although everybody knows that there are in existence certain editions of the Bible which are much prized by bibliomaniacs on account of some ridiculous printers' blunders, few people are aware how many of these editions there are. The most widely known are the Breeches and Vinegar Bibles. The former is so called because in the Geneva version of Genesis iii. 7, Adam and Eve are spoken of as making themselves breeches out of fig-leaves. This translation of the Scriptures, which was done by the English exiles at Geneva, served as the regular family Bible in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, until it was superseded by the authorised version of James I. The Vinegar Bible was so named from the headline of the 20th chapter of S. Luke, which reads as "The Parable of the Vinegar," instead of "The Vineyard." The date of this was 1717. In addition, however, to these well-known examples there are others quite as singular. The Bug Bible was so called from its rendering Psalm xci. 5, "Afraid of bugs by night," the present version being "terror by night." This reading was printed in 1551. The Place-makers' Bible obtained its name from a remarkable typographical error, which occurs in Matthew v. 9, viz., "Blessed are the place-makers," instead of "peace-makers." The politicians of the present day would probably not have objected to the use of the former benediction. The Treacle Bible, printed 1568, had a passage in Jeremiah vii. 22, which read "Is there no treacle in Gilead?" instead of "Is there no balm." The He and She Bible was so called from a very slight mistake that occurred in Ruth iii. 15, when, instead of "she went into the city," it was printed "he went." The Wicked Bible, printed 1631, was rather an expensive one to the printer, who was fined £300 because from malice or carelessness the negative was left out of the seventh commandment (Exodus xx. 14). The Murderers' Bible was a mistake of the present century, and was so called from an error in the 16th verse of the Epistle of Jude, making it to read, "These are murderers, complainers," instead of "murmurers." The Printers' Bible, issued in 1702, contained an absurd mis-statement of David in the 110th Psalm, v. 161, in which he was pathetically made to say that "printers persecuted him without a cause," instead of "princes." There would have been a degree of probability about this in these days of Royal authorship which would have made such a mistake highly amusing.—*Living Church*.

The Paternoster-row of Turkey is the Hodja Pacha-road at Stamboul, leading from the Sublime Porte to the Seraskierat. Both sides of this road are bordered with rows of bookstalls, in which may be had every publication recently issued from the rapidly growing Turkish press. A complete catalogue, printed in Turkish, and also sold at the stalls, furnishes some interesting details concerning the state of Turkish literature at the present day and the taste of the general reader in Turkey. M. Clement Huart has recently written a paper on the works published at Constantinople from the year 1877 to 1883, which gives a good idea of the state of Turkish literature in the present day. There are at present forty-five printing offices at Stamboul and twenty-three at Galata and Pera, from which are issued nine daily papers and twelve other periodicals. Twenty-one provinces possess official journals dealing with local affairs, and in nineteen provinces annual reports are printed in connection with the administration. Of the 400 works published since 1877, the translations, with the sole exception of a pamphlet on the Navy translated from the English, are the works of French authors. Among these are Jules Verne's *Adventures of Three Russians* and *Three Englishmen*, Xavier de Maistre's *Mysteries of the Inquisition*, *The Daughter of the Siberian Exile*, and *The Prisoners of the Caucasus*, Eugène Sue's *Wandering Jew*, Chateaubriand's *The Last of the Abencerrages*, Alphonse Karr's *Under the Limes*, A. Dumas's *Monte Cristo*, *The Women's Crusade*, &c., Balzac's *Bachelors*, and several of Victor Hugo's writings. All kinds of original literary works are also to be had at the famous Hodja Pacha-road. The headings of fictitious productions in prose, as well as in poetry, are well adapted to attract attention. Among these are *The Cafés Chantants of Paris*, *The Sacrifices of the Executioner*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Lovers' Stories and Adventures*, *The Seven Beauties*, *The Queen's Daughters*, and others suitable to the taste of the nation in which the harem is still an established institution. The dramas are, to judge from their headings, much of the same kind; but there are, besides these, a number of theological, scientific, and legal works. Several Korans, with notes and comments, are carefully prepared after different versions. With the exception of these, however, the scholastic works are all embellished with titles such as the following:—*The Splendid Pearl*, on the principles of Mussulman laws; *The Cutting Sword*, a treatise on religious controversies; *The Casket of Pearls*, useful advice to the military profession; and *The Willow Branch*, with the *Most Beautiful Rhetorical Leaves*. A pocket library, now in course of publication, contains volumes on women, the heavens, the earth, &c., and a *Universal History*, in five or six volumes, will also shortly be completed. Most of the above works are sold at prices which bring them within the reach of everybody.



## DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

The Right Rev. J. Jackson, D.D., Bishop of London, died on Tuesday morning, at the age of 74, at his residence, the Palace, Fulham. The cause of death was heart disease. For some months it has been evident that the venerable prelate's strength has been gradually giving way. During the last Session of Parliament it was noticed by those frequenting the House of Lords that whenever he occupied his seat he was supporting his head with his hand, and his weakness was so well known and recognised in the Upper House of Convocation that for the last two sessions a reclining chair has been provided for his use. It had also become imperative for him to secure an episcopal colleague in Bishop Walsham How, to whose charge he assigned East London, and latterly Bishop Titcomb, to whose charge he deputed the episcopal functions generally exercised by the Bishop of London over the Anglican Churches on the Continent. In October his Lordship paid a visit to Gloucestershire, which seemed to do him a great deal of good, and since his return to London he has been remarkably free from indisposition.

On Sunday morning the Bishop rose apparently in the enjoyment of his usual health. As he was starting from the Palace he complained of a sharp spasm of the heart. This seems to have passed away very soon, and the Bishop proceeded to fulfil the engagements he had entered into. In the morning he assisted his son-in-law, the Rev. F. H. Fisher, in the administration of the Eucharist at the neighbouring parish church of All Saints, Fulham, of which the latter is vicar. In the evening he preached at St. Paul's Cathedral, and after Divine service returned to Fulham Palace. About four o'clock on Monday morning he complained of acute pains in the chest and side, and his medical adviser (Dr. Sibley) was sent for. That gentleman arrived about seven o'clock. Pending the arrival of the doctor poultices and mustard leaves were applied, and great relief was experienced therefrom. During Monday the Bishop remained in bed, and no immediate danger was apprehended. At half-past four on Tuesday morning he was found to be sleeping calmly; but an hour after his youngest daughter, Miss Mary Jackson, went to his bedroom and found that the Bishop had expired. He died on the 11th anniversary of his wife's death, and will be buried to-day (Saturday) in Fulham-road churchyard, close to the Palace grounds. The funeral arrangements will be simple, and so far as possible private. The coffin will be borne by domestics from the Palace to the church; thence to the tomb by the Palace servants, in accordance with a desire previously expressed. The coffin-lid will bear a large cross and the following inscription: "John, Bishop of London; born February 22, 1811; died Feast of Epiphany, 1885." The grave is within a few yards of that of Bishop Blomfield, a former Prelate who died while head of the diocese of London. Since the Restoration many Bishops of London have been interred in this churchyard, Bishop Hinchman, who owed his promotion to the part he took in assisting Charles II. to escape after the battle of Worcester in 1651, and who died in 1675, being the only one buried inside the church. In the east end of the churchyard are the tombs of the following Bishops of London:—Henry Compton, 1713; John Robinson, 1723; Edmund Gibson, 1748; Thomas Sherlock, 1761; Thomas Hayter, 1762; Richard Terriek, 1777; Robert Lowth, 1787; and John Randolph, 1813. Some time since the arms of Bishop Jackson in stained glass were placed in the west window of Fulham Church. Intelligence of the death of the Bishop was telegraphed to the Queen and to the Archbishop of Canterbury and other dignitaries of the Church.

The bells of the West-end churches were tolled during the day. The flag at Lambeth Palace, the London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, was at half-mast, and at several of the metropolitan churches in which services were held in the evening the preachers made reference to the sad event.

The late Bishop was the son of the late Mr. Henry Jackson, of Mansfield, in Northamptonshire, who followed mercantile pursuits. He was born in London, February 22, 1811, and received his early education at Reading Grammar School, under the late Dr. Valpy. From thence he proceeded to Pembroke College, Oxford, where he became a scholar and graduated B.A. in 1833. In 1834 he gained the Ellerton prize for an English theological essay on *The Sanctifying Influence of the Holy Ghost Indispensable to Human Salvation*. Two years later he was chosen headmaster of the Proprietary Grammar School at Islington, in connection with King's College, London. This post he held, in conjunction with, first, for seven years, the curacy of St. Mary's, Stoke Newington, and afterwards with that of the incumbency of St. James's, Muswell-hill, in the parish of Hornsey, until 1846, when he was appointed rector of St. James's, Piccadilly, by Dr. Blomfield, then Bishop of London, on the earnest recommendation of the rector of Hornsey. In 1847 he was appointed one of the chaplains in ordinary to the Queen. He became a canon of Bristol in 1852; was a select preacher before the University of Oxford in 1845, 1850, 1862, and 1866, and preached the Boyle lectures in London in 1853. In the last-mentioned year, on the death of Dr. John Kaye, he was nominated by the late Earl of Derby to the See of Lincoln, and from thence was translated to the See of London on the elevation of Dr. Tait to the Primacy of All England in 1869.

Bishop Jackson married in 1838 Mary Anne Frith (who died in 1874), the youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Browell, of Kentish-town, and leaves ten daughters. One of the Bishop's daughters, Miss Helen Jackson, married the Rev. B. Gore Browne, son of the Bishop of Winchester, but died in 1881.

Dr. Jackson's most valuable literary work is that which was contributed to the *Speakers' Commentary*. His literary works are thus enumerated in *Crockford*:—*The Leading Points of Christian Character* (six sermons), 1844; *Sanctifying Grace, and the Grace of the Ministry*, 1847; *The Day of Prayer, and the Day of Thanksgiving* (two sermons preached on those days), 1849; *The Sinfulness of Little Sins*, 1849; *Rome and her Claims* (a sermon), 1850; *The Spirit of the World, and the Spirit which is of God*, 1850; *Repentance, its Necessity, Nature, and Aids* (a course of Lent Sermons), 1851; *An Address to the Newly Confirmed, preparatory to the Holy Communion*, 1852; *Sunday, a Day of Rest or a Day of Work* (a Few Words to Working Men), 1853; *War, its Evils and*

*Duties* (a sermon), 1854; *The Witness of the Spirit* (sermons preached before the University of Oxford), 1854; *God's Word and Man's Heart* (sermons preached before the University of Oxford).

Many letters and telegrams expressing condolence with the family of the late Bishop have been received. On Wednesday morning letters were received by the vicar of Fulham (son-in-law of the Bishop) from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archdeacon of Middlesex, Sir Charles Dilke, and numerous other eminent persons, requesting him to convey to Miss Jackson expressions of sympathy.

The news was made known at St. Paul's Cathedral at nine o'clock on Tuesday morning, and at the morning service the "Dead March" in *Saul* was played upon the organ by Dr. Stainer, and again at the afternoon service. The great bell of St. Paul's was tolled from eleven o'clock until twelve, and the melancholy tidings soon became known throughout the City, where expressions of surprise at the suddenness of the event were general.

Preaching on Tuesday afternoon in St. Paul's Cathedral, Prebendary Lees commenced his sermon by saying that it would be unseemly to enter the Cathedral pulpit and make no reference to the awfully sudden loss which had fallen upon that Church and diocese, and of which all of them must have heard, but a few hours before. The lamented death of the Bishop of London created a void that must be felt by everyone, but it was especially touching to them there, as he stood so recently in that place, and was the last preacher to stand there. Occurring also as it did on the Festival of the Epiphany, it served to remind them more forcibly than anything else of the reality and solemnity of those truths which the season proclaimed, and which to him had indeed been a season of manifestation.

At a meeting of the Fulham Vestry on Tuesday evening, the chairman, Mr. Francis Egan, referred to the sudden death of the Bishop of London, who, he said, had been amongst them for fifteen years, and their severe loss would affect the whole parish of Fulham. He moved—"That the Vestry of Fulham beg to express their deep sympathy with their vicar, the Rev. F. H. Fisher and Mrs. Fisher, and the family of the late Bishop, in their present bereavement." Mr. Schofield seconded the motion, which was agreed to. The Rev. F. H. Fisher was son-in-law of the late Bishop.

In its biographical notice the *Times* says that amongst those who in 1833 obtained a First Class at Oxford were the Dean of Christ Church, Dr. Liddell—who was a Double First—and his colleague in Greek lexicography, Dr. Scott, formerly Master of Balliol and now Dean of Rochester; the late Earl Canning, who was Governor-General of India at the time of the Mutiny; the present Lord Sherbrooke, then Mr. Robert Lowe; and Mr. Henry Halford Vaughan, some time Regius Professor of Modern History, and one of the leaders of University Reform at the time of the first University Commission. Bishop Jackson obtained no Fellowship—at that time Fellowships, except at Oriel and Balliol, were confined to special localities—and he seems to have quitted the University soon after taking his degree. In 1834 he obtained the Ellerton Theological Prize for an essay on the thesis, "The Sanctifying Influence of the Holy Ghost is indispensable to Human Salvation." It is said that St. James's, Piccadilly, was first offered by Bishop Blomfield to Canon Harvey, who was at the time rector of Hornsey, a cure which he held for more than fifty years, having only resigned it in 1880. Canon Harvey declined the preferment for himself, but recommended the Bishop to appoint Mr. Jackson, whose district of St. James's, Muswell-hill, was subordinate to the rectory of Hornsey. The Bishop, it is said, acted on the recommendation, and thus the late Bishop obtained his first important preferment. He was appointed Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen in 1847, and became Canon of Bristol in 1853.

In 1853 Dr. Kaye died. He had been a Bishop since 1820, when he was nominated to the then independent See of Bristol, and Bishop of Lincoln since 1827, having been translated from Bristol in that year. As he was Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, before his elevation to the Episcopal Bench, it will be seen that he was a very old man at his death; and, indeed, the affairs of his vast diocese had been very feebly administered during his declining years. Those were, comparatively speaking, very old-fashioned days. There was no Bishops' Resignation Act, and aged Bishops, too old for work, had no alternative but to let their Sees take care of themselves as best they might. An active and energetic Bishop was needed to take the place of the venerable Bishop Kaye. The appointment lay with Lord Aberdeen, who became Prime Minister in 1852. It is said that the Premier consulted the active rector of St. James's, Piccadilly, as to the qualities required in a Bishop, and especially in a Bishop of such a See as Lincoln. Mr. Jackson gave his advice and expounded his ideas of what such a Bishop should and ought to be, when Lord Aberdeen, it is said, suddenly interrupted him by saying, "Thou art the man." We give the story as it is told, without vouching for its truth. Of Dr. Jackson's tenure of the See of Lincoln there is little of public interest to record. He spoke rarely in the House of Lords, though he took an active interest in Convocation, and for the most part his attention was confined to the administration of the affairs of his great diocese. In this he found full scope for his energies, and though he was never very prominent before the world, yet his reputation for capacity and earnestness, for sobriety of judgment and moderation of temper continued to increase until his preferment to the See of London brought him once more into direct contact with metropolitan life.

In October, 1868, Archbishop Longley died, and after some delay, and—if we may trust Bishop Wilberforce's diary on this point—some difficulty in high quarters, Dr. Tait, the Bishop of London, was nominated by Mr. Disraeli to succeed him. It is not impossible that similar difficulties may have occurred in filling up the vacant See of London. At any rate, the translation of Bishop Jackson occasioned some surprise, not because any objection could possibly have been taken to the selection, but because the Bishop of Lincoln was, for the reasons we have stated, less known to the world than several of his Episcopal contemporaries. But, as in the case of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the selection of Bishop Jackson by Mr. Disraeli to occupy the See of London was fully justified in the result. There was nothing very brilliant or conspicuous about the late

prelate's administration of the diocese of London. He was not, indeed, what the world calls a brilliant man in any sense. He had taken a First Class at Oxford in very distinguished company, but he was not regarded as a brilliant scholar by those who knew his University work, and his appearance in the First Class must be attributed to the sound teaching of Dr. Valpy (one of those teachers of the Busby type who never spared the cane nor spoiled the pupil), and to his own natural predilection for the more philosophical portion of the examination for "science," as it was then called at Oxford. At St. James's and at Lincoln he exhibited the same qualities, solid rather than brilliant, and what he was at Lincoln that he was also in London. He could not entirely avoid controversy in these days of aggressive Ritualism, of Public Worship Regulation Acts, of Church Associations, Church Unions, and the like, but he never courted it and never embittered it. He took an active interest in the Bishop of London's Fund, established by his predecessor, and he warmly approved that "consolidation" of his diocese—as Lord Beaconsfield would have called it—which, though it has resulted in the creation of one new See and the rearrangement of several old ones, has not, as he pointed out in his last Charge, delivered in November, resulted in any diminution of the total population included within the limits of the present diocese of London. In 1861 the original diocese contained a population of 2,290,000. Its population had risen in 1881 to 2,920,000, although in the meanwhile it had parted with 450,000 to the diocese of Rochester and its area had been reduced to the county of Middlesex. In 1884 its estimated population was three millions. These figures are perhaps the most eloquent, as they are certainly the most significant, comment on the late Bishop's career. A man who could sustain for fifteen years the burden of so vast a charge, who never flinched from work, who made no enemies and secured the respect of all sections of his clergy, and indeed of all who knew him, may well be content with no more brilliant record than that of work such as his, wisely, strenuously, and quietly done. Till within the last few years, when a Bishop-Suffragan was given him, he discharged his vast duties without Episcopal assistance. He courted no notoriety, and had no great predilection for ecclesiastical activity unconnected with his own work in his own diocese. He was not a voluminous writer, though he published several volumes of sermons, and his little book on *The Sinfulness of Little Sins* has had an enormous circulation. His Charges were, like his own character, moderate, earnest, and practical. He was not often to be seen at Church Congresses, and he was slow to follow the example of his brother prelates in giving his countenance to a Diocesan Conference. But even Bishops, the most conservative in disposition and the most retiring in personal temper, must move with the times and give way to their spirit, and the Diocesan Conference was established in London, with the sanction of the Bishop, some three years ago. We may see in this reluctance to follow the prevailing fashion one of the leading characteristics of the late Bishop. He preferred work to talk; he was somewhat reserved in disposition; he was cautious, judicious, sober-minded; and, like most elderly men of strong character and practical disposition, he had a natural respect for established traditions and time-honoured ways. He stood between the old school and the new, combining the sobriety and good sense of the one with the love of work and the high standard of duty of the other; and though his successor may not be like him in many respects, he may well be content to take as his example the blameless life, the high character, the moderate temper, the sound judgment, and the steady persistence in well-doing of such a prelate as Bishop Jackson.

At the funeral of the late Bishop of London to-day, the service will be read by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who will be assisted by the Bishop of Bedford. Dignitaries of the Church, those holding offices in the diocese, and laymen attending as representatives of institutions of which the Bishop of London was a member will assemble at the Palace; others will await in the church the arrival of the funeral procession. None but those having tickets, which can only be obtained from the Rev. F. H. Fisher, vicar of Fulham, will be admitted to the church. The procession, which will leave the Palace at 11.30, will be formed in the following order:—First there will be the Bishop's servants bearing the coffin; next, in surplices, the chaplains of the Bishop; following these will walk the lay officials of the diocese, members of the family, the Bishops attending, the Deans of St. Paul's, Westminster, and Windsor; representatives of the Chapters of St. Paul's and Westminster; Prebendaries of St. Paul's, Minor Canons of St. Paul's, and Rural Deans of the diocese. Besides these, Earl Stanhope, representing the Ecclesiastical and Church Estates Commissioners, and other distinguished laymen holding offices in societies and public bodies with which the Bishop was connected, will take their places in the procession. The service will be choral, the choir of the parish church being assisted by the chorister boys from the Chapel Royal, St. James's, who wish to attend as a mark of respect to the late Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal. The arrangements have been timed for the service to commence at noon.

## THE NATIONAL SOCIETY.

The resolutions which are to be moved by Mr. Hubbard, M.P., at the monthly meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, to be held in the large room of the National Society, at two p.m., on Friday next, are as follow:—

1. That the success of the missionary work of the Church of England must greatly depend upon the co-operation of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel as effecting economy in administration and attracting confidence and support by the evidence of harmony in principle and action.
2. That special funds instituted through personal interest in particular agencies or fields of missionary labour ought to be cordially encouraged, as largely increasing the aggregate means devoted to Evangelisation.
3. That the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel having in 1882 closed the accounts of 156 special funds, the board are of opinion that the Society should no longer delay to welcome back to the shelter and assistance which it can afford every special missionary

fund of adequate importance and legitimate purpose, and undertake the transmission of the funds entrusted to it upon the distinct stipulation that the recipients shall furnish clear and complete statements of the application of the funds for the satisfaction of the Society and of the donors.

4. That this meeting regrets that the Executive of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel should have made no advance towards remedying the inconvenience caused by their rejection of important missionary funds, driven by their exclusion to form a "Central Agency for Foreign Missions," and it especially laments that officials of the Society should have, in their comments on special funds, deprecated their existence and have censured those who supported them.

On these resolutions the Standing Committee have made a report, in which they say:—

"The Standing Committee cordially welcome the principles embodied in the first and second resolutions proposed by Mr. Hubbard.

"They gladly recognise that the assistance of special funds is essential to enable many of those who are toiling in the missionary field to accomplish what is desirable for the furtherance of the work on which they are engaged.

"The Society endeavours to carry out these principles by cordially encouraging special funds maintained through personal interest in particular fields of missionary labour. As there appears still to exist some misapprehension on the subject, the Standing Committee desire to call attention to the fact that the number of special funds upon the Society's books is at this moment no less than 160; the sole difference between the former system and that now adopted being that the Society now accepts the responsibility of administering these funds for the benefit in each case of the diocese or mission specified by the donors. Those who wished to administer their special funds independently of the Society withdrew them from the Society's books after the resolutions of 1882. Those who wished to avail themselves of the Society's experience in their administration retained their funds upon its books, and new special funds have since been opened on the same conditions. For all these the Society holds itself responsible to the donors and to the Church at large.

"With regard to the remaining resolutions proposed by Mr. Hubbard, the Standing Committee would ask the attention of the Society to the following facts:—

"The system now in force is the same as that which was in operation for 153 years, up to the year 1837.

"In that year the Society began to conduct business as a forwarding agency for persons who wished that it should receive and transmit money for missionary purposes, with no more knowledge or control over the application thereof than would be possessed by an ordinary banker.

"It now appears to be extremely doubtful whether the Society's action in receiving such funds without accepting responsibility for their administration was not, as a matter of fact, contrary to the letter and spirit of its charter.

"Moreover, in practice many inconveniences were found to result from the experiment, which was patiently made and not hastily abandoned. It was found that a very general misapprehension existed as to the administration of such funds, and that the Society was generally supposed to give the weight of its authority and sanction to an administration for which it was not responsible and of which it knew nothing.

"Accordingly, in 1832, the Standing Committee felt themselves compelled to appoint a large Special Committee to consider the whole subject. This committee came to the conclusion that it was necessary for the Society to recur to the original system, which was undoubtedly the one exclusively contemplated by the charter.

"The whole question turns upon the responsible administration of special funds, and the Standing Committee cannot reverse a deliberate decision arrived at with much labour so lately as 1832. Taking their stand upon the plain words of the charter, the Standing Committee feel themselves compelled to decline to "receive" moneys without having the "management and disposition" thereof, either as generally applicable to the whole mission field, or as specially applicable to particular fields of missionary labour.

"With respect to the suggestion contained in Mr. Hubbard's third resolution, the Standing Committee cannot do better than refer to the following clause in the report of the Sub-Committee on the relation of the Society to special funds.

"Speaking of the system of special funds before the alteration of 1832, it says in Clause 9, 'It has been suggested that some disadvantages of the present system might be avoided were the Society to require each special fund to render annually a duly audited account of its receipts and expenditure.' But such a precaution, while it might possibly be regarded as an undue reflection upon the management of the special fund, would, in the judgment of your Sub-Committee, merely result in a fallacious appearance of responsibility on the Society's part, without giving any actual security as to the receipts or expenditure of money, over which the Society would possess no real control.

"On the above grounds the Standing Committee cannot recommend the Board to accept Mr. Hubbard's resolutions."

## Ecclesiastical.

### PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

- Rev. F. H. Dillingbrooke, to Rectory of Bletsoe.
- Rev. W. Boyd, Secretary to the Bishop of Chichester, to Rectory of Wigginton and Greattham, Sussex. Patron, Baron Zouche, of Harringworth.
- Rev. H. W. Carpenter, to be Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Salisbury.
- Rev. D. G. Davis, to Rectory of Shire Newton, near Chesham, the Bishop of Llandaff.
- Rev. C. G. K. Gillespie, Curate of St. Mark's, Cheetham-hill, Manchester, to Chaplaincy at Tours.
- Rev. D. Horman, to Rectory of East Chelborough, otherwise Lewcombe. Patron, the Rev. E. Clary.
- Rev. H. Hunter, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, to Rectory of Laxham. Patron, St. John's College, Cambridge.
- Rev. J. T. Loeche, Curate-in-Charge of St. Mary, Graham-street, S.W., to Vicarage of Barnes, Surrey. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's.
- Rev. C. E. Lowe, to Rectory of Kelling-with-Salthouse, Norfolk. Patron, Mr. John Savory.
- Rev. H. D. Cust Nunn, Minor Canon of Ripon Cathedral, to Vicarage of Sharow, near Elton. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Ripon.
- Rev. J. Orr, to be Licensed Preacher in the Diocese of Manchester.
- Rev. F. B. Proctor, Assistant Master of King's College School, Strand, to be Minister of the New Temporary Church of St. Mark's, Chipping Barnet. Patron, the Rector of Chipping Barnet.
- Rev. Canon Rich, to Vicarage of Chippenham and Rector of Kellaways, Wilts. Patron, Sir J. Neild.
- Rev. A. Tanner, Curate of Much Malvern, to Vicarage of St. Mary's, Haggerston.



Rev. H. Fenn, formerly Rector of Clare Point, Tiverton, to Vicarage of Sittingbourne. Patron, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Rev. W. F. Warburton, H.M. Inspector of Training Colleges, Honorary Canon of Winchester, and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop, to Canonry of Winchester. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. G. Wingate, Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield, Curate-in-Charge of St. Mary's, Haggerston, to Vicarage of Shifnal, Shropshire.

Rev. J. R. Wrenford, to Vicarage of Cranford, Suffolk. Patron, Mr. W. Forster, as trustee for the Rev. W. M. Hobson.

**LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ELY.**—Revs. Robert Fisher, LL.M., to Dunstable; Frederick John Foakes-Jackson, M.A., to St. Botolph, Cambridge; Thomas Alfred Gurney, B.A., LL.B., to St. Mary, Luton.

**LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.**—Revs. R. Masheder, M.A., to Coldhurst; G. Rubie, B.A., to St. James, Accrington, and to officiate in St. Peter's licensed school at Scalfcliffe.

**LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.**—Rev. H. Duckett, M.A., to Great Bedwyn.

**LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF WORCESTER.**—Revs. W. M. Osborne, to All Saints', Birmingham; W. Robinson, to St. Matthew, Duddington.

#### OBITUARY.

Dec. 26, the Rev. John Bleasdel, Ashton-under-Lyne, aged 69.

Dec. 30, at Belmont, Hastings, the Rev. Henry John Carter-Smith, for twenty-eight years Vicar of St. Andrew's, Haverstock-hill, London.

Dec. 30, at the Rectory, Broughton Sulney, Notts, the Rev. Richard Eddie, M.A., Rural Dean, in his 68th year.

Dec. 30, at Castle Connell, the Ven. Thomas Fitz Gerald French, Rector of Castle Connell and Archdeacon of Killalee, aged 69.

Jan. 1, at Pangbourne House, Tunbridge Wells, the Rev. John Andrew Jetter, aged 94.

Jan. 3, at 21, Charlotte-street, Bath, the Rev. Henry Freeman Cheshire, M.A., formerly Vicar of Wyke, Surrey, aged 73.

Jan. 5, at 210, Cornwall-road, Notting-hill, the Rev. Robert Scarlett Grignon, formerly Rector of St. John-ab-Castro, Lewes, aged 63.

Jan. 6 (Feast of the Epiphany), at the Palace, Fulham, the Right Rev. John Jackson, Lord Bishop of London, aged 74.

#### MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

We deeply regret to learn that the Right Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, who is at present staying at the house of his daughter, at Harewood, near Leeds, is again seriously indisposed. Since Dr. Wordsworth intimated his intention of resigning his See at an early date, his health has been gradually growing worse.

On the Epiphany, the customary offering of gold, frankincense, and myrrh was made on behalf of Her Majesty at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace. Mr. Alpin Macgregor and the Hon. Aubrey Fitzclarence, the two Gentlemen Ushers-in-Waiting, attended and presented the Queen's gift. The Sub-Dean, the Rev. Edgar Sheppard, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Troutbeck, the Rev. S. Flood Jones, and the Rev. A. H. Cotton, and the Holy Communion was celebrated.

The proposed costly improvements to the sacristy of Canterbury Cathedral by the local Tait Memorial Committee have been for the present abandoned as impracticable, owing to a division of opinion. Consequently the plans for new sedilia at a cost of rather more than £200, with perhaps new altar rails, will alone be executed.

The Duke of Cambridge and the Marquis of Hartington have promised their support to the movement for erecting a suitable memorial to the late Bishop Piers Claughton, Chaplain-General of Her Majesty's forces.

On Monday at a meeting of clergy and laity at Winchester, the Bishop presiding, it was decided to restore the Cathedral reredos at an estimated cost of £4,000, as a memorial of Archdeacon Jacob.

News has been received from New Zealand of the death of Archdeacon Brown, of Tauranga, who was appointed by Bishop Selwyn in 1841, and was one of the original students of the Church Missionary Society's College at Islington.

The Rev. Henry Sayers, headmaster of St. Michael's College, Tenbury, has been appointed by the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, to a chaplaincy in the Cathedral, and the headmastership of the Cathedral school.

It has been decided to pull down and rebuild the tower and spire of Sleaford Church, the architect, Mr. Pearson, having reported that the lower part of the tower is in a dangerous condition.

The ancient church of Holwell, near Sherborne, is about to be restored at considerable cost. The nave is to be reset, and a gallery that blocks the tower arch is to be removed. A new chancel will be constructed with an organ chamber attached on the south side.

A new font has been placed in the Church of St. Michael, Helston, which is said to be the finest work of its kind in the county of Cornwall. The bowl is of Beer stone, and the shaft of local serpentine.

A new lectern has been presented to the parish church of Paul, near Newlyn, by a parishioner of the latter picturesque but somewhat unsanitary suburb of Penzance.

The debt incurred in restoring the towers of Wimborne Minster having been fully discharged, it is now proposed to proceed with the restoration of the transepts, towards which the nucleus of a fund has been already promised.

An appeal on behalf of the Bishop of St. Alban's Fund has been made by the clergy of the twenty-four district churches and of the thirteen Mission districts in the deanery of Barking, representing a poor population, which increased between the years 1871 and 1881 from 110,710 to 223,546. They say they are feeling little less than consternation at the prospect of the possible withdrawal of the grants for fifty-four living agents. They add: "We owe it to the fund that we have been able in any reasonable degree to meet the spiritual wants of our still constantly and rapidly increasing parishes."

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The Rev. P. P. Gilbert, M.A., vicar of Cripplegate, has, it is stated, been stricken with total blindness. The rev. gentleman's sight has been failing for some time past, but it was scarcely anticipated that this affliction would end so seriously. A special musical service which was to be given on Wednesday, the 28th inst., has been postponed in consequence.

In connection with the restoration of St. Michael's Church, Coventry, a magnificent structure, no less than £20,335 was raised in the last six months of 1882. Mr. Woodcock, it may be remembered, offered £10,000 if £20,000 were raised within 12 months. The success attained has been made the subject of a congratulatory address from the pulpit by the vicar (the Rev. James Butter).

On Monday evening a meeting was held at the Vestry Hall, Hampstead, for the purpose of listening to carols sung by the choir of Mr. Mackeson's Mission Chapel, and the choral society connected with it under Captain White. In the course of some introductory remarks, Mr. Mackeson said they rejoiced at the promotion of Mr. Bickersteth to the Deanery of Gloucester, not merely because he was an excellent clergyman, but because he was a good hymn-writer. The spacious hall was crowded, and, with few exceptions, those present belonged to the working-classes, and all joined in the choruses with great spirit.

The Bishop of Chester on Wednesday consecrated Macclesfield Old Church, which has been undergoing restoration for eighteen months. The chancel and vestries have been restored and the galleries taken down, at a cost of £3,250. The remainder of the work is estimated to cost from £6,000 to £8,000.

The Rev. Canon Cook, the editor of *The Speaker's Commentary on the Bible*, has announced his intention, through failing health and the infirmities of age, of resigning his position as a Canon Residentiary of Exeter. The stall which will thus be vacated has a stipend of £1,000 per annum and residence attached, and is in the gift of the Bishop. Canon Cook was formerly preacher at Lincoln's-inn, and succeeded Dr. Harold Browne at Exeter upon the latter's appointment to the Bishopric of Ely.

A fire broke out on Saturday night at Babworth Rectory, near Retford, Notts, the residence of the Rev. Bridgeman-Simpson. Fortunately efficient help was at hand, and the flames were soon extinguished. They originated in the room of Lady Frances Bridgeman-Simpson, who is almost blind, and has for her companion Miss Hesketh. For a time the greatest alarm prevailed, but the prompt measures taken by Mr. Fisher, the house steward, soon put an end to all danger.

By the death, in his 68th year, of the Rev. Richard Eddie, the living of Broughton-Sulney, near Melton Mowbray, Notts, has become vacant. It is the gift of Sir J. P. Radcliffe, and of the value of £300 a year.

The Rev. Christopher Whichcote, rector of Aswarby, Lincolnshire, youngest son of Sir Thomas Whichcote, fifth Baronet, died suddenly at the Rectory, Aswarby, on Sunday, in his 79th year. He was appointed rector of Aswarby in 1850. He was uncle of Sir Thomas Whichcote, the present Baronet.

The Bishop Jeune Memorial Prize for 1884 has, with the approval of the Archbishop of York, been divided between the Rev. A. S. Newman, curate of Emmanuel Church, Loughborough, and the Rev. H. A. Smyth, curate of Aylestone, whose essays were decided to be of equal merit.

The Dowager Marchioness of Hertford has erected an elaborate reredos of alabaster and marble in Arrow Church, near Alcester, to the memory of the late Marquis of Hertford.

The Church of St. Mary, Deane, has been reopened after enlargement and restoration, the chancel having been lengthened and the cumbersome galleries removed. When the church was repaired in 1833, under the then vicar, the late Canon Girdlestone, many of the distinctive features of the building were concealed or partially disfigured, but have now been restored to their pristine condition. Among other discoveries an ancient aumbry, which had been plastered up, has been brought to light, and several remains of ancient colouring.

Two very handsome mural tablets have just been erected in the old parish church of St. Marylebone, to the memory of several members of the Portland family who lie buried in the family vault beneath the church. Amongst the names inscribed are the third Duke of Portland, who was Prime Minister of England in the beginning of the century; the Marquis of Titchfield; Lord William Charles Cavendish Bentinck, Governor-General of India from 1827 to 1835; the last Duchess of Portland; and Lord George Frederick Cavendish Bentinck, well known in racing circles. The tablets are executed in finely-veined Pavonazza marble, with yellow antique slab for inscription, surmounted with the arms of the Portland family richly emblazoned. This church, it may be mentioned, is now called by Act of Parliament "The Parish Chapel," and the Rev. Grant E. Thomas is the incumbent.

Great improvements have been made in the chancel of St. Mary's, Hulme, Manchester; a handsome reredos has just been erected, and a new altar and footpace have replaced the old ones. The reredos is of oak, and is in the form of a triptych. There are three recessed panels, which will shortly be enriched with paintings by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. Above these are carved and perforated gables through which the stained glass of the east window is seen. The centre gable runs up to more than 20ft., and terminates in an elaborate floriated cross. There is a niche about half way up in which is placed a figure of the patron saint of the church with the Holy Child in her arms. The painting will represent Christ on the cross, draped and crowned, as the "Priest for ever" of the Epistle to the Hebrews. Behind the cross stand Melchizedek, the primeval and typical Priest-King; Aaron, the High Priest of the Old Dispensation; and Solomon, the Priest-King of Israel's culminating period. At the foot of the cross kneel St. Mary and St. John. In the side panels are adoring angels. An exquisite frontal has been worked and presented for the new altar, which is upwards of 10ft. long. The material of the frontal is the richest cream silk damask, and the centre is embroidered with a graceful trailing pattern. Divided from this by embroidered orphreys are lilies. The whole forms a work of art such as few churches or even Cathedrals possess. It is the work and the gift of three sisters who are members of the congregation.

On Christmas Eve the vicar of St. Michael's, Wigan, dedicated the new reredos which has been given by the Revs. C. D. and S. Pater and Miss Pater, in memory of their parents. It has been erected by Messrs. Earp and Hobbs, from the design of Mr. A. E. Street, the son of the architect who

designed the church. It is in three panels, divided by shafts of Greek red marble, relieved by bands of black, with trefoil arches of tinted alabaster above, in the cups of which are bosses of Emperor red marble. In the central panel is, to quote the words of the faculty, "an historical representation of the Crucifixion," carved in relief in white alabaster on a diapered background. On the right panel is the figure of the Archangel Michael trampling on the dragon, and on the left the Archangel Gabriel holding the lily, the emblem of purity. On Christmas Day there were 228 communicants.

The Bishop of Carlisle, Dr. Goodwin, in a pastoral letter which he has just issued to the clergy of his diocese, refers to the extension of the franchise and the need of strengthening the Church. His Lordship, after expressing his joy and thankfulness at the recent settlement of the difficulty between the two great parties in the State, goes on to state:—"We shall soon have a Parliament returned by the people under a new and much-changed code of rules. It is impossible to forecast the character of that Parliament, and of those which will succeed it; but, as a matter of fact, the Parliament will be returned by a constituency in which what is called the democratic element will be much more predominant than it now is or ever has been. I do not know that there is any reason to believe that the Parliament so elected will be otherwise than well-disposed on the general subjects of religion and morality; but undoubtedly there is a belief in some quarters that under the altered Constitution there will be an opportunity of giving effect to schemes for the disestablishment of the Church of England which at present are not deemed to be practicable. Hence I think it is well that we should consider seriously the position in which the Church stands, and how that position can be strengthened. It seems to me that, under God, the principal methods of strengthening the Church of England are two—first, adding to her efficiency; and secondly, publishing the truth concerning her." In conclusion Dr. Goodwin states:—"With unity within the Church, earnest work, and an appeal to truth and justice, I do not know that we need fear the days that are coming. In a remarkable book entitled *The Coming Democracy*, written by one who knows much of the working-man class, which in future will be so important an element in the Constitution of England, you will find some thoughts and arguments upon this subject which are worthy of consideration. I cannot at this time undertake to accompany you in such consideration, but I would venture to say that one great effort of the Church of England, in prospect of the days that are coming, should be to inform the heads and to gain the hearts of the working men; these heads may be informed; these hearts may be gained."

The Church of St. Andrew, Westminster, was reopened on Sunday after renovation and decoration, the vicar, the Rev. Gerald Bowman preached in the morning, and Archdeacon Farrar in the evening. Preaching from the words, "Ye shall reverence my sanctuary," the Archdeacon observed that it would be a sad and humiliating day for England if ever her ancient churches should be allowed to suffer from neglect and fall into decay. If they entered a dim and dingy church, with mean and shabby furniture, or where the prominent feature was the cushioned comfort of the family pew, they could only conclude that the parishioners had a poor and miserable conception of the value of beauty and art, and an inadequate appreciation of the high purposes for which the sacred building was intended, or else that they were sunk in sordid worldliness. He was thankful that so very different a state of things prevailed at St. Andrew's, as was shown by the way in which the building had been beautified at no small cost to the vicar and the congregation. The work of beautifying that church was not yet thoroughly accomplished, but he hoped by the generous offerings of the congregation it would be completed in the course of the present year. Those who promoted the appropriate decoration and adornment of their churches and endeavoured to render them more suitable for their sacred purposes were really acting as trustees for posterity. But those who were content to live in ceiled houses, surrounded by all that was beautiful and artistic, while they left the House of God bare and unadorned, were condemned by the autograph of the Creator, written in the beauties of nature throughout the globe. The preacher then went on to urge that the adornment of the material sanctuary must not be effected at the expense of the spiritual life or to the neglect of the sufferings of the poor; and maintained that there was ample evidence to show that where care was shown for God's house care was also shown for His poor. In conclusion he urged the congregation to join heartily in the service, and not to be in such a hurry to leave the church after the sermon, the too frequent custom of people leaving the building, even while the Benediction was being pronounced, being, to his mind, inexpressibly shocking. A short carol service was subsequently conducted, to which the majority of the congregation remained.

The Bishop of Lichfield, in a New Year's pastoral to his clergy, after referring to the work for laymen, not as second-class clergymen, but getting rid of the old fallacy, which dies hard, that the Church is the clergy, as authorised to speak to their fellows "the word of life," makes the following remarks on enthusiasm:—"What we all sorely need is more enthusiasm in the things of God. This cannot be said as yet to be in any special sense a characteristic of the Church of England. We have other admirable qualities—a sound rule of faith and a sober standard of feeling in matters of personal religion—but for our aggressive work—the work which is now forcing itself upon us and which many who follow us not are doing alongside with us—we want a burning love for souls, a readiness to spend and be spent if by all means one may save sorrow, a self-sacrificing courage which neither fears the frowns of the world nor seeks its praise; in short, some measure of that Divine enthusiasm which filled the breast of our blessed Lord Himself and of His Holy Apostles." The Bishop then proceeds to justify his restriction on the preaching of deacons as carrying out the very words of the Ordination Service, and the restriction was forced on him by finding the excessive amount of preaching which had been required of deacons. Dr. MacLagan adds that in every case the deacons have been wiser than the newspaper critics, and expressed themselves most grateful for the remarks he and his chaplains have made on the matter and style of their sermons,

defective treatment of texts, and inaccurate statements of doctrine.

Sir John Coode, referring to Professor Hall's paper in the *Quarterly Statement of the Palestine Exploration Fund*, on the passage of the Israelites across the Red Sea, says that while engaged with other members of the International Commission upon the investigation of various matters connected with the question of improving the Suez Canal, some of the party landed from time to time, and on one occasion at a point between what is now the north end of the Gulf of Suez and the south of the Bitter Lakes—not, in fact, very far to the north of the bridge of boats by which the pilgrims from Mecca cross the canal. "Desiring to test for myself the character and hardness of the unbroken ground at this point, and at a height of 12ft. or 15ft. above sea level, the first stroke of a pick turned up from 3in. below the surface a thick cake of dull white substance, which at the moment appeared to be gypsum, and whilst stooping to take it up I remarked accordingly; but simultaneously a colleague who was standing at my side exclaimed 'Salt.' On asking him how it came to pass that he so instantly arrived at this conclusion he replied that the whole district thereabouts was full of such salt. When it is explained that the gentleman had the engineering charge of a considerable length of this part of the Suez Canal at the time the work was in course of construction, and consequently had thus acquired an intimate knowledge of this district, and also that on testing the ground at other points thereabouts I found salt existing below a thin covering of sand at heights considerably above the sea level, there is ample warrant for saying, as I have done, that the extensive existence of salt in this form and at such a height cannot be regarded otherwise than as a proof that the waters of the Red Sea did at one time extend as far north as the Bitter Lakes. Further evidence that at some period antecedent to the formation of the Suez Canal the sea extended as far up the isthmus as the Bitter Lakes is found in a remarkable sample of salt which was cut from the bottom of the Bitter Lakes by the engineers of the Suez Canal Company before the sea was let in to effect the completion of the water communication between the northern and southern sections of the work. This block of salt, to which my attention was directed by M. de Lesseps, is preserved in the courtyard attached to the offices of the Canal Company at Ismailia; it is fully 7ft. in height, and according to M. Voisin Bey, who at the time was taken out acted as the company's chief engineer in Egypt, salt certainly existed to a still greater depth, but to what precise extent is not known. I may here mention that whilst passing over the five hundred miles from the Strait of Bal-el-Mandeb to the water of the Red Sea is so far changed by evaporation that samples taken from the surface of the sea have been proved to be nearly two parts in 1,000 saltier than those at Bal-el-Mandeb. It should be borne in mind, moreover, that an exceptionally great amount of evaporation would necessarily take place within such a comparatively shallow inland basin as that of the Bitter Lakes, having its surface swept by the hot dry air of the Arabian Desert, and shut in from the Mediterranean by the high land at Serapeum immediately to the north or, at any rate, by the still higher ridge of country at El-Guisr. These conditions would obviously contribute to the formation of such a remarkable deposit of salt as is found in the specimen above described. A peculiar feature in this specimen is the presence of an occasional thin layer of sand, most probably caused during the prevalence of violent southerly winds which from time to time raise the sea level of Suez nearly 3ft. above that of an ordinary spring tide in calm weather. The strong current the northward on such occasions would be sure to carry a considerable quantity of sand into the Bitter Lakes, sufficient, it may be assumed, to account for the layers of sand in question. The facts to which I have here called attention appear to me unquestionably to confirm the view entertained by Professor Hull, and according to that view the physical conditions at the time of the Exodus are brought in harmony with the Bible narrative, and the difficulties which have hitherto surrounded the subject of the passage of the Israelites through the Red Sea is thus to a great extent removed."

At the invitation of the Bishop of Bedford, a conference was held on Saturday between the representatives of the working classes and of the clergy at his Lordship's residence, Stainforth House, Uppington, to consider the best means of alleviating distress existing among the labouring classes of the metropolis, more particularly the East London district. The Bishop, in opening the proceedings, pressed his deepest sympathy with the large mass of human suffering existing in the East-end of London due to industrial depression. He was glad to welcome some of the working-class leaders there that day to talk over the matter, with a view that something practical should be done to alleviate the distress during the present winter. The Rev. R. C. Bill (rector of Spitalfields) bore testimony to the enormous amount of distress existing among the labouring classes of the Whitechapel and Spitalfields district, and suggested that a representative deputation should wait upon Lord Mayor and request his Lordship to grant use of the Long Parlour at the Mansion House for the purpose of a special meeting to inaugurate a relief fund, which he was satisfied would be well supported by the wealthier classes of the metropolis. It was eventually agreed, on the motion of the right chairman, "That the Lord Mayor of London respectfully requested to receive a deputation representing all classes on the earliest day possible, for the purpose of representing to his Lordship the condition of large numbers of the unemployed poor of the metropolis, and to take steps for their relief." The conference, which had lasted three hours, then adjourned.—The Rev. S. A. Barnett, vicar of St. Jude's, Whitechapel, has since written to the *Standard*:—"At the Bishop's invitation I was present, but far from supporting the formation of a Metropolitan District Fund, I hold that such a fund would increase distress by increasing the number of the officials who 'blush' and of the poor who cringe.' Gifts there must be according to a measure hardly yet realised, they must follow friendship. Where friendship there can be no degradation in giving or receiving. Those who have money must give themselves, so to make friends among the poor, before they can take the privilege of giving. Changes, too, are necessary



in the conditions under which people live, change which may involve unexpected expenditure; but all such changes must recognise the manhood of the poor, and not treat them as if they had only the wants of animals. "Means of life" the people have a right to demand, and the changes that are necessary are those which will bring to the poorest home the joy, the knowledge, and the hope which now belong to the few. While we may wait for a better time, we may avoid a course of action condemned by the experience of those who have seen a Mansion House Relief Fund create worse sorrow than it cured, and condemned also by a religion which teaches that the poor are to be treated as neighbours, to be entertained as guests, and to be regarded as capable of the highest life."

Archdeacon Farrar took for the text of his New Year's sermon at Westminster on Sunday morning the words, "For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength," and applied them in turn to individuals, to nations, and to humanity at large. As for individuals whose web of life is ever woven of the three threads of labour, of sorrow, and of joy, the Prophet's lesson was never more needed than now, amid all "the weak shifting of opinion, the removing of ancient landmarks, the frightened hurrying hither and thither like that of little burden-carrying ants," which are characteristic of the age. For all outward troubles and personal catastrophes, how hard, yet how certain, is the truth that our strength is to sit still. Equally needful is the lesson in those inward struggles which are inseparable from a doubting age. Men see mud missiles flung incessantly at the blue heaven, and are affrighted; but the end is not yet.

Archdeacon Farrar had no more confidence in any restless hurrying to and fro and panic-struck cry of alarm as a remedy for our national troubles:—"Dark clouds loom now upon the horizon. What do we see at this moment? Trade depressed, thousands overburdened, some of our greatest colonies dissatisfied, our Navy weak, our Army weak and constantly exercised in expeditions barren, difficult, and expensive; France jealous, suspicious, and hostile; Germany irritating and unfriendly; Russia persisting in stealthy encroachment or in sullen menace. Complications far less vague than these have in past days often burst out into terrific war. We may hope that by the wisdom of our rulers, guided by the providence of God, such calamities will be averted; and yet who knows whether another fifty years may not see England as utterly humiliated as France has been utterly humiliated; and if it be so, I believe that it will not have come from war or catastrophe, but from our own national vices made into a scourge to punish us for our national faithlessness to the God of our fathers."

"Our life, however, is not simply individual: not even exclusively national. It is humanitarian. Besides personal sorrows, besides religious difficulties, there are many general perplexities, and they deepen day by day. England, India, Germany, like China and many other regions of the human race, are beginning to feel the pressure, the difficulty, the alarm, the struggles, the unrest of overcrowded nations. Very serious for increasing numbers is the struggle for life. We see around us poverty and want, hunger and nakedness, vice and crime, pauperism and drink, dissoluteness and foulness, ignominy and degradation on every side filling the atmosphere more and more as with a darkness which may be felt. And besides these two chronic evils, there is abroad a spirit of hatred and envy, a tyranny and a servility, a thirst for wealth and a thirst for its destruction, clouds which if now no bigger than a man's hand may burst into tempestuous blasts and howl in every quarter of the blackened sky. And seeing this, some men, and they by no means the worst, are urgent that something tremendous should be done; new movements of revolution made; new plans of upheaval tried, ere we perish in the impending catastrophe. Alas! in their violent and socialistic remedies, they propose nothing which will stand a moment's serious examination. Their impulse too much resembles that of animals to rush this way and that at the threatening of storms. Society will grow none the better for being torn up by the roots. The foundation of things will be rendered none the more secure by institutions shattered as with dynamite, for cities ablaze with petroleum. Better indeed is eager desire for change than a slothful, selfish, immoral acquiescence, which basely says, 'It will last my time, and after me the deluge.' But the remedy for social disorder does not lie in schemes of communism, such as have been laughed to scorn by the universal experience of mankind. No; it lies in the right use of means which God has long ago bestowed upon us. It lies in the Christianity which we have travestied, in the example of Christ which we have neglected, in the Gospel of Christ to which we have been so false. Ah! let us try what we have before we fly to Egypt or Assyria. Christ gave but one new commandment, and it was 'Love one another.' Have we individually, have we as a parish, have we as a nation tested its efficacy? Let me urge upon you this lesson—to be sincere to ourselves, to be sincere with God. It is monstrous to reject that which we have been taught to regard as His revelation when in reality we have in no single respect fulfilled the conditions by which alone it can be tested. No living man, from ages before the flood till now, ever did God's work in God's appointed way who has failed to experience that such life and such work secured the blessing of his own heart and the healing of the world. Men who are languid and careless on the one hand and restless and unstable on the other may talk large language and ventilate airy schemes, but they will do little or nothing; the district visitor, the Sunday-school teacher, the humblest soul who keeps himself pure and faithful because of God's law and man's good, will in reality achieve more than they. For those whose strength is thus in quietness and confidence there is little need to wish a Happy New Year. They will have it, so far as goodness is happiness (and if it be not happiness, it is a blessedness which is a yet nobler and sweeter thing). Every day of the new year will be to them but as—

A dazzling spoke in the swift wheel  
Of the revolving week.

And each week shall roll round like the wheels of a chariot, which is carrying them along the road of God's commands and purposes, and which will bring them nearer continually to the gates of heaven."

## THE COURT.

Her Majesty, the Duchess of Albany, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the members of the Royal Household attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday morning. The Bishop of Newcastle officiated.

According to present arrangements, the marriage of Princess Beatrice with Prince Henry of Battenberg is to take place early in May, and will be celebrated as quietly as possible, in the Private Chapel at Windsor Castle, where Princess Christian and Princess Frederica of Hanover were married.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maude, and the guests staying at Sandringham, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the household, were present at Divine service on Sunday at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, in the park. The Rev. F. Hervey, M.A., Chaplain to the Queen and Domestic Chaplain to the Prince and Princess of Wales, officiated, assisted by the Rev. J. O. Stephens, M.A., Rector of Blankney, Lincolnshire, who preached the sermon.

Prince Albert Victor on Thursday received a deputation of the tenants on the Sandringham Estate, and the Corporations of Norwich, Lynn, and Cambridge, who presented addresses, congratulating him on attaining his majority. In reply, the Prince said he should steadfastly strive to follow the same paths of kindness, goodwill, and generosity which his parents had trodden. The Prince of Wales, in acknowledging an address presented to him, said it had been his earnest wish that his children should follow in the footsteps of the Queen and Prince Consort, and should emulate the bright examples set by his revered parents, not only to Princes, but to all those who sought for domestic contentment and happiness. After the ceremony the Royal party assembled outside, when the labourers on the estate marched up, and gave hearty cheers for the Prince. A ball was given at night to the guests at Sandringham and the principal families in the county. Her Majesty gave a dinner to the servants at Osborne House on Thursday, in celebration of Prince Albert Victor attaining his majority. At Balmoral there was a dinner at the Castle; a bonfire was lit on Craigowan; and at the Prince of Wales's Highland residence the event was similarly honoured. At Portsmouth and Cowes the shipping displayed flags; whilst at Windsor and many other towns the event was celebrated either by entertainments to the poor, public dinners, juvenile balls, or by the hoisting of flags. Numerous congratulatory messages were despatched to Sandringham by Magistrates in Quarter Sessions, Town Councils, and other public bodies, and to some of them the Prince of Wales telegraphed replies. The Lord Mayor presided over a special meeting of the Court of Common Council, at which it was resolved to present addresses to the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales, congratulating them on the coming of age of Prince Albert Victor. It was also decided to ask the Prince to take upon himself the Freedom of the City, to which he is entitled by patrimony, and, upon his acceding to that wish, the Freedom will be presented in a gold casket, and, as was stated, in a manner worthy of the City.

Prince Edward of Wales has been appointed a lieutenant in the 2nd Brigade of the Eastern Division Royal Artillery. The Prince of Wales is the honorary colonel of the brigade, which was formerly known as the Prince of Wales's Own Norfolk Artillery Militia. The corps, which is in a very efficient condition, is commanded by Lord Suffield, the headquarters being at Yarmouth.

It is stated on authority that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has no intention of asking for a Parliamentary grant for Prince Albert Victor on the attainment of his majority.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

A strong and influential committee of the Roman Catholic body has been formed, with the Duke of Norfolk at its head, and supported by Lord Denbigh, Lord Arundell of Wardour, Mr. Charles Russell, M.P., and others, for the purpose of presenting a suitable testimonial to Canon Gilbert, of Moorfields, on the occasion of his being made one of the "Domestic Prelates" of Pope Leo, an honour which gives him the rank and style of "Monsignor." Canon Gilbert has had for many years the pastoral charge of St. Mary's, Moorfields, where he has organised a most useful and valuable "night refuge" for the poor, and has acted for nearly twenty years as Vicar-General to Cardinal Manning at Westminster.

Letitia, Lady Vivian, died at her residence in Cadogan-place, on Sunday, aged 80. Her Ladyship was the second wife of General Richard Hussey, first Lord Vivian (who was rewarded for distinguished services by being raised to the Peerage in 1841), whom she married in October, 1833, and was left a widow in August, 1842.

At the Masonic Ball which took place in Liverpool on Thursday evening, Mr. J. B. Mackenzie presented to the Earl of Lathom, Deputy-Grand Master of England, a portrait of the noble Lord, painted by Mr. Haynes Williams, together with an illuminated address from the West Lancashire Lodges, in recognition of his Lordship's valuable services to Masonry.

At the instance of a firm of coal merchants, Mr. Commissioner Kerr, in the City of London Court on Thursday, granted an order for the committal for ten days of the Countess De la Torre for the balance of a debt and costs amounting to 14s. 9d. In the course of the hearing of the application the learned judge gave expression to his views on the subject of the new electorate and the veracity of newspapers.

A terrible tragedy is reported from East Sussex. In the village of Loughton, near Lewes, two brothers, named Amos and John Barber, both shoemakers, resided together, and on Thursday morning they were both found dead, one body lying on the ground with the head battered, and the other being suspended from a beam. It is believed that John murdered Amos, and then committed suicide.

At the Hawarden rent audit on Wednesday, Mr. W. H. Gladstone, the lord of the manor, presided. He apologised for the absence of the Premier, of whom he said there was no ground for believing that his usual good health was impaired, or even seriously interrupted. At the same time, his father could not look forward to a much longer continuance of an active political life. Doubtless, however, he would be in harness as long as he lived, though perhaps his work might be of a more congenial character than that of the political arena.

At St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, and the several Roman Catholic places of worship in the diocese, on Sunday, a letter was read from the Bishop (Dr. Coffin), informing the congregations that he had been in communication with the Holy See with the view of obtaining the appointment of an auxiliary Bishop, as the state of his health prevented him from fully discharging the duties connected with the administration of the diocese. As a result the Pope had agreed to appoint the Very Rev. Canon Butt, of Arundel, as Coadjutor Bishop of Southwark, in accordance with the recommendations made by the Bishop. The formal consecration of the new prelate will take place at an early date.

Colonel the Hon. Charles Grantham Scott, formerly of the Scots Fusilier Guards, uncle of the Earl of Clonmell, died at his house in Eaton-square on Monday morning, after an illness of a few days only, from, we are informed, inflammation of the lungs. The deceased colonel was the younger of the two sons of Thomas, second Earl of Clonmell, by his wife, the Lady Henrietta Louisa Greville, second daughter of George, second Earl Brooke and of Warwick, and was born on the 1st March, 1818. He entered the Army as ensign and lieutenant in the Scots Fusilier Guards in February, 1836, and remained in that distinguished regiment till he obtained his promotion as colonel in the Army in January, 1855. The late colonel married in March, 1843, Frances Maria, daughter of the late Mr. Ralph William Grey, by whom he leaves issue three sons and three daughters.

Miss Catherine Jones, who was attired in the garb of a Sister of Charity, and who was described as Sister Catherine, was summoned at the Bristol Police-court on Monday for assaulting Martha Elizabeth Brown, aged eleven years, and Florence Herbert, aged eleven, inmates of the St. Michael's Home for Children, Frampton Cottrell. The girl Brown alleged that she had been repeatedly beaten on the hands with a cane, and that she was twice struck across the back with a poker, and as she was threatened with further chastisement she ran away. She admitted in cross-examination that she had been guilty of many acts of theft, and that she had stolen some of the New Year's gifts forwarded for the children. Herbert, who it was alleged, was also concerned in the theft of New Year's gifts, stated that as a punishment she was beaten by Sister Catherine with a rug-strap whilst lying on her bed in her night-dress. Dr. Mead, who examined the children, described their bruised condition, which he said was probably the result of caning. The defence was that the children were incorrigible, that the punishment had not been excessive, and that no poker was used. Several witnesses deposed to the kind treatment of the children generally. The magistrates, whilst admitting that the home was doing good work, thought undue severity had been used, and fined Miss Jones 10s. in each case.

On Tuesday night, as the residents in Norfolk-street, Hollinwood, near Oldham, were retiring to rest, they were alarmed by hearing a subterranean sound resembling in its loudness a series of claps of thunder. They rushed out in great alarm to learn what was the matter, but they could perceive nothing except that at the bottom of the street a number of barrows and implements used by excavators were disappearing into the earth. This being accompanied with unusual rumbling noises, the inhabitants became very much alarmed, and many rushed out into the street only partially dressed. About 20 women and children were taken to a publichouse and accommodated for the night, but a large number spent the night in the street, as they were too alarmed to return to their houses. About a quarter to one Mr. George Hayes and his wife and family were alarmed at the sound of water rushing down a hole, and it then appeared that a water-main had burst and that the water was pouring down in great volume into a coal-pit shaft 140 yards deep, and which was sunk about 100 years ago. The Corporation of Oldham have been engaged forming the street. On the following day the noises continued to be heard, and it is stated that the district is honeycombed with pits. So violent were the shocks that many of the houses rocked.

At a meeting of the Society for the Study and Cure of Inebriety, held on Tuesday, in the rooms of the Medical Society, the President (Dr. Norman Kerr) in the chair, Mr. Lennox Browne, in a paper on the influence of alcohol in relation to voice use, presented an abstract of the testimony of 380 vocalists. Of that number 101, or 26·51 per cent., claimed to be total abstainers, including some of the most eminent singers in Cathedrals and Chapels Royal. Of the 279 non-abstainers sixty-five, or 23·25 per cent., took stimulants at meals only, and the same number at the close of the day; twenty-six, or 9·3 per cent., at supper only; forty-seven, or 16·8 per cent., at meals and the end of the day; and the remaining sixty-six, or 22·9 per cent., acknowledged taking stimulants at all times, according to pleasure and opportunity. As regards taking an intoxicant either immediately before or during the use of the voice as an aid to its exercise, 75 per cent. stated that they never did so, and 20 per cent. that they did so more or less habitually. Mr. Browne's opinion was generally against the use of alcohol.

Returns relating to all authorised gas undertakings in the United Kingdom, including those belonging to local authorities and those not under the control of such authorities, have been issued. Under the first category it appears that the total amount of loan and capitalised value of annuities authorised by Parliament is £21,163,139; the total amount of money borrowed down to December, 1883, including capitalised value of annuities (not deducting the amount repaid), was £17,874,351; the total receipts for the year, £4,252,296; the total expenditure, exclusive of interest on loans, £2,877,732; and the total quantity of gas consumed, 22,308,058,616 cubic feet. In the case of undertakings other than those belonging to

the local authorities, the figures show a total share capital paid up of £29,038,726; total loan capital authorised, £9,092,993; loan capital issued, £5,075,804; and total number of cubic feet of gas sold, 47,808,265,546.

The Great Eastern fireman, named Davis, who was in collision last week at Camden-road, has died from the injuries then received. An inquest was held on Saturday, at which it transpired that the driver of the Midland train, seeing only one red light against him, and a white light at the foot of the semaphore, thought the latter indicated that he might proceed cautiously, and hence the collision. The fact, however, was that, as water had got into the gas pipes, and the signals were burning unsteadily, the gasmen obtained lamps from the signalman Bray at the signal-box. They ascended the ladder to the semaphore, and the gas went out just as they ascertained that the signalman had given them a lamp which would not go into the box. Thus the semaphore remained for two minutes unlighted, and during the interval the accident occurred. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

The Board of Trade returns for December show that the total value of the imports during the month was £33,073,970, or a decrease of £797,161 as compared with the same month in 1883. The chief decrease is £1,907,621 in articles of food and drink imported duty free. On the other hand, the imports of raw materials for textile manufactures showed an increase of £1,439,055. The total value of the imports for the year 1884 was £389,774,549, against £425,603,932 in 1883—a decrease of £35,829,383. Of the total decrease, £26,055,547 was under the head of articles of food and drink imported duty free. The value of exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures last month was £17,840,103, a decrease of £1,130,999, as compared with December, 1883. The total value of the same classes of exports in 1884 was £232,927,575, a decrease of £6,871,898 as compared with 1883. The class of articles in which the falling-off was most marked (£3,383,869) was "metals and articles manufactured therefrom (excepting machinery)." In the exports of yarns and textile fabrics there was a decrease of £1,553,281. Under every other head there was a falling-off, except in chemicals and medicinal preparations, which showed an increase on the year of £49,346 as compared with 1883. In the exports of foreign and colonial produce there was a decrease in 1884 of £3,193,882 as compared with 1883.

Another dynamite outrage was perpetrated in London on Friday, the 2nd inst. The place selected for it was the Underground Railway, and it took place as two trains were passing each other between Gower-street station and King's-cross. There was a loud explosion, which was audible not only at the two stations, but for some distance round. All the glass of the carriages of one of the trains was blown to pieces, and the lights extinguished. Great gusts of smoke were blown out of the ends of the tunnel, accompanied, some witnesses say, with a flash of red light, which could be distinctly seen along the roof of the tunnel. The passengers were greatly alarmed; but beyond the damage above mentioned and some cuts sustained by persons in the trains very little harm was done. In this case, as at Praed-street, it was the third-class passengers who suffered most. The result of Colonel Majendie's inspection of the tunnel was such as to convince the experts that the explosion was caused by a small percussion bomb, probably not unlike that used at the assassination of the Emperor of Russia. The bomb would explode immediately upon coming into contact with the wall of the tunnel, and its effects, so far as damage is concerned, would be entirely local, although the sound of the explosion might be heard for a long distance. It is considered certain that the bomb was thrown from the train going westward, which sustained considerable injury, and that the explosive was contained in a glass or earthenware ball. The authorities incline to the belief that the casing was of earthenware, because, however much it might have been shattered by explosion, had it been glass there would have been little difficulty in tracing the fragments, and this they have been unable to do. The dark pieces of earthenware, however, could not be so easily discovered amongst the ballast of the line until the debris had been carefully sifted, which is now being done preparatory to drawing up the official report.

In conformity with ancient usage, presents of venison from the Royal forests have been received, through the First Commissioner of Works, by the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and various officials of the City of London. The venison warrants had their origin in the early charters granted to the citizens in which their huntings were secured to them. King Henry I. in 1101 granted and confirmed by charter that "the citizens of London should have their chase to hunt, as well and as fully as their ancestors—that is to say, in Chiltre (part of Hertford) and in Middlesex and Surrey." That privilege was confirmed by King Henry II., King John (1199), and King Henry III. (1227); and Fitzstephen, in his description of London, written in 1174, expressly mentions the privilege of the citizens to hunt in Middlesex and Hertfordshire and also in Kent as far as the River Cray. There is also in the British Museum an original warrant in Norman French for six bucks from Eltham and Windsor Parks sent to Sir J. Gedeney, Lord Mayor in 1428, and there is among the Lansdowne documents a letter written in 1557 to Lord Burghley, the Lord High Treasurer, by Sir John Langley, then Lord Mayor, on the subject of the venison warrants. Formerly the gifts were more numerous than they are now, and eighteen bucks and eighteen does used to be sent to the Lord Mayor and the City officials. In 1821 a correspondence on the subject was engaged in between the Crown and the Corporation, the Crown desiring to limit the gifts to the City to five bucks and five does, in consequence, as was alleged, of the removal of deer from the New and other forests and the scarcity of Royal venison, and the matter was not ultimately settled until 1858. An arrangement was then come to that the City should thenceforward receive twelve bucks and twelve does—namely, the Lord Mayor four of each, the Sheriffs three, the Recorder, the Chamberlain, the Town Clerk, the Common Serjeant, and the Remembrancer a buck and a doe each. In pursuance of this the doe warrants were issued last week, and in July the buck warrants become due.

DAYLIGHT IN DARK ROOMS.—Chappuis' patents, 69, Fleet-street.



An accident which resulted fatally to one lady and injuries more or less serious to several other persons occurred on Sunday evening at the Presbyterian Church, Gloucester-road, Chalk Farm, during divine service. The officiating minister, the Rev. G. Watson, had scarcely commenced his discourse when a small gallery which had only recently been erected, after giving several preliminary signs of insecurity, suddenly gave way, precipitating its occupants to the ground. The greatest confusion and alarm prevailed for some time, but the gentlemen present exerted themselves to extricate the unfortunate persons buried in the debris. This was accomplished with considerable difficulty and with some delay. Medical assistance was summoned, and an examination showed that Miss Maitland, an elderly maiden lady, residing close to the church, was dead, she having sustained a severe scalp wound and several other injuries. Five or six other persons had sustained injuries, the most serious case being that of a young man who had an arm and a leg broken. The unfortunate affair created great excitement in the neighbourhood, and the service was brought to an abrupt termination. The cause of the gallery falling is said to be the weakness of a beam upon which it principally rested. The balcony in question was crowded at the time the accident happened, and it is surprising that more persons were not seriously injured.

An obscure and poverty-stricken nook of the City, which owes its interest not to history, but to fiction, is about to disappear from the map of London. Bleeding Heart-yard, which Dickens peopled with his sympathetic characters, is now a desolate tract, the houses all empty, the yard deserted, but quite as dirty as of old. The name had a mystery about it which had fascinated the novelist. He himself tells how the inhabitants were quite at variance as to the source of this picturesque and suggestive nomenclature—some proudly confident in an early murder, while the more sentimental inhabitants had a beautiful legend of a broken-hearted lady, to which they clung with desperate unanimity. As sometimes happens in London archaeology, the true solution was suggested by a tavern. It is curious to find publicans unconsciously discharging the duties of the Herald's College, but topography and tavern signs go often together. In Charles-street, Hatton-garden, there was some years ago—and it may still exist—a public-house of which the name was the "Bleeding Heart." The origin of the sign dates from before the Reformation, and related to the Roman Catholic mystery of the rosary—the Virgin's heart pierced by five wounds.

At the Mansion House, on Monday, Herbert Percy Frond was charged before the Lord Mayor with violent and indecent conduct during Divine service at St. Paul's Cathedral. Mr. Green, the Dean's verger, deposed that just before eight on Sunday evening, during Divine service at St. Paul's Cathedral, the defendant got up in the middle of the congregation, just as the Bishop of London was going into the pulpit, and commenced speaking. There was a great commotion among the congregation, and people got up in alarm and stood on the chairs to see what was the matter. The witness then gave the defendant into custody. This was the third successive January on which the defendant had been inside the Cathedral; and he seemed to keep it as an anniversary. Being asked whether he had any questions to ask, the defendant replied that he spoke very distinctly, and "bawling" had nothing to do with the matter. An assistant verger gave corroborative evidence, saying that he heard the defendant say something about a house of idols and the destruction of the city. The police-constable who took the defendant into custody proved that the accused shouted out, "Now is the time for the kingdom of God. This is a temple of idols." The defendant ceased speaking directly the witness took hold of him, and left the Cathedral quietly. At the police-station he refused to give his name or address or any particulars. Being asked if he had anything to say, the defendant said: "What I have to say is this. I am God's true Church, because He created man and woman in the image of Himself. The Lord Mayor: Yes, yes; but I don't want to hear any nonsense of that sort. Just reply to the charge, which is disturbing the congregation of a place of worship by improper language. What have you to say to that? I won't go into any nonsense of that kind. The defendant: No, you won't hear the Word of God. Neither you nor your predecessors would ever listen to God or His voice. These men who are there are merely worshippers of idols, and they don't know how to save men's souls, nor do they care for men's souls. The Lord Mayor again interposed, and said the defendant must answer the charge, and not go into religious matters. The defendant made some observation, whereupon the Lord Mayor said he understood the charge sufficiently well not to go into irrelevant matters. The defendant: I admit the charge. I said the time had come when God would proclaim His kingdom throughout all the nations of the earth. The Lord Mayor: Then my duty commences. I find from a list before me that you have been nine times before this Court and the Guildhall. You have been treated very mercifully on many occasions, but mercy seems quite thrown away. The defendant: No; nothing to do with mercy. The Lord Mayor: I believe you are partially demented; but you have sufficient knowledge to know that you are doing wrong. I shall not send you to an asylum, but to prison for two months. The defendant: Before I go, I will tell you that God has sent me to preach in this city. The time has come when it will be delivered from all its troubles. I wish to preach this truth; but men resist me, and they will not listen to God's word, out of the hardness of their hearts. The defendant was then removed.

The Registrar-General reports that the highest annual death-rates from measles, measured by last week's mortality, were 2.8 in Leicester, and 8.9 in Cardiff; from whooping-cough, 1.4 in Birmingham, and 1.6 in Preston; from scarlet fever, 1.4 in Halifax and in Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and from "fever," 0.9 in Sheffield, and 1.2 in Norwich. The 36 deaths from diphtheria in the twenty-eight towns included 28 in London and 2 in Liverpool. Small-pox caused 58 deaths in London and its outer ring of suburban districts, and not one in any of the twenty-seven large provincial towns. Of the deaths from small-pox in London 42 were recorded in the Metropolitan Asylum

Hospitals, 3 in the Highgate Small-pox Hospital, and eleven in private dwelling-houses; the latter included three in one family at Reeves-place, Shoreditch, and three at East-street, Newington. After distributing the hospital cases, twenty belonged to the East, sixteen to the South, nine to the North, seven to the West, and one to the Central groups of registration districts. The number of small-pox patients in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals, which had been 1,026 and 1,079 on the two preceding Saturdays, declined to 1,013 at the end of last week; the admissions, which had been 244 and 161 in the two previous weeks, were 171 last week. The Highgate Small-pox Hospital contained ninety-two patients on Saturday last, fifteen cases having been admitted during the week. The Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals contained 316 scarlet fever patients on Sunday last, nineteen having been admitted during the week; also sixty-five cases of enteric fever, and five of typhus.

The Trustees of the Canterbury Charities have been called upon by the Charity Commissioners to prepare a new scheme for the administration of the various charities under their control. Some months ago the Trustees asked the Commissioners to appoint several new Trustees to fill vacancies caused by death. This, however, the Commissioners declined to do, but suggested to the surviving members of the Trust that they should propose a fresh scheme, the present method of distributing the charities being, in the opinion of the Commissioners, very unsatisfactory. The Trustees passed a resolution to the effect that no necessity existed for any alteration being made in the scheme, and requesting the Commissioners to appoint new members on the Trust. Another communication has this week been received from the Commissioners, urging upon the Trustees the importance of a thorough revision of the scheme, and pointing out the principal objections to the present system. The Commissioners refer especially to the large number of ten-shilling doles which are given away annually in January, and also to the gifts of suits of clothes and gowns, with regard to which they ask the Trustees to consider the desirability of diverting the money to better uses.

A public conference of trade-union delegates, working-class associations, and political and friendly clubs of the West, South, East, and North London districts was held on Tuesday night at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Mr. George Mitchell, a member of the London School Board, who presided, said, in opening the proceedings, that they were met to devise some means whereby willing hands and starving people might be employed. At the present time there was more poverty in London than there was in two-thirds of Europe outside of Great Britain. The construction of subways all over London would employ a large number of hands. Something must be done for the starving poor. If they went shoulder to shoulder, he was sure the Government would listen to any reasonable proposition that might be submitted to them. He was in favour of railways from Uxbridge-road through Oxford-street; and if they would not carry them out he would suggest that all the common land of this country that had been enclosed for the last 120 years should be put up to public auction. Mr. J. A. Giles, vestryman of Newington, said that the schemes of improved locomotion of which notice had been given in the House of Commons for the next session, and which were known as subways, involved an expenditure of a large sum of money, which in the present depressed state of industry meant work for thousands of the unemployed. There were several schemes of this description to be brought before Parliament; one from Clapham to the City, another from King's-cross to Charing-cross, and a third, and perhaps the largest of all, proposed to run from the Marble Arch under Oxford-street and High Holborn, through Charterhouse-street, Snow-hill, Newgate-street, Cheapside, and on to Cornhill. The last scheme was threatened with opposition; but the opposition came from certain tradesmen in Oxford-street catering for the wealthier classes. He proposed a resolution pledging the conference to support the Bills to be introduced into Parliament for the construction of subways. Captain Tom S. Lemon, Stratford, seconded the resolution, and it was supported by Mr. George Potter. After some further discussion it was resolved to arrange interviews with the Corporation of the City, the Metropolitan Board of Works, and the various local vestries, to solicit their support for the subway schemes.

A memorial has been presented to the Lord Mayor calling attention to the condition of industry in London and throughout the kingdom, and praying his Lordship to grant the use of the Guildhall for the purpose of a public meeting to consider the subject. The memorialists further proposed that Mr. Henry George shall be invited to address the meeting.

The report of the committee appointed by the Treasury to inquire into the adequacy of the present Central Post Office buildings and establishments has been issued. It is dated June 23rd, 1884, and is signed by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre (then Chief Commissioner of Works), Mr. R. E. W. Lingon, and Mr. S. A. Blackwood. The committee state that after carefully investigating and taking evidence on the subject, they find it doubtful whether it would be expedient to go much further with the system of decentralisation in the case of the letter and inland parcels post hitherto contemplated, as it would involve the necessity for passing letters through an additional office, and a consequent serious loss of facility, time, and working strength; but they think the department might profitably examine the question of creating in the metropolis one or more additional circulation offices. In reply to the question whether an international parcels post would create a need for large central premises, the committee are disposed to think that the work connected with such a department, including Customs examination, could be dealt with at the General Post Office, enlarged as it has been, and as it might further be by the construction of a sorting office or offices under the yards of the building; or else that the Customs examination might be made at the ports of arrival or near the metropolitan railway termini. On the question whether the central telegraph system could be further decentralised, the committee report that a strong opinion prevails in the department, doubtless founded on reasonable grounds, that concentration of telegraph machinery and staff, if not exceeding manageable limits, has important advantages alike in the economy of costly material and economy and

disposability of force, and that consequently, under present circumstances, any measure of decentralisation is deprecated by the experienced officers of the service. The committee further find under this head that the additional accommodation to be afforded by the upper story of the General Post Office, now in course of construction, coupled with the use, for pneumatic tube purposes, of a large room on the ground floor of the building, now otherwise applied, is likely to suffice for five or six years to come. The committee see grave difficulties in the way of a reconstruction of the eastern building, but are convinced of the importance of bringing together the several branches of the General Post Office now necessarily separated through want of adequate space. The means of attaining the objects desired they see in the extension of the present General Post Office over adjoining properties, rather than in the construction of a new central office elsewhere. The committee therefore recommend as the wisest course the purchase of the whole of the property north of the General Post Office between St. Martin's-le-Grand and King Edward-street as far as the burial-ground and the Money Order Office, which will admit of the widening of Angel-street and necessitate the closing of Bull and Mouth-street. This would give a building area of 35,630 square feet, a floor space on stories of 152,700ft., and would involve a total cost of about £375,000.

Lord Kimberley, presiding at the Norfolk Quarter Sessions on Thursday, expressed surprise at the statement made by Mr. Read, M.P., to the effect that cattle on the Government Model Farm near Dublin, suffering from pleuro-pneumonia, were not immediately slaughtered, and promised to write to Earl Spencer on the subject. In the course of a discussion upon highways, the noble Earl said under the present system it was impossible to maintain decent roads. Until the House of Commons found time to attend to some of the minor yet very pressing matters of county administration, this and other useful measures would not receive the attention they deserved. At a time not far distant a new House of Commons would be elected upon a different system, and if it spent less time in talk and more in getting through business than the present House had done everybody would welcome the change with the greatest possible satisfaction.

The year 1884, amongst other changes, has introduced a new judicial title. Her Majesty, by warrant under the Royal sign manual, dated the 4th of August last, conferred upon the county court judges of England and Wales a distinctive social and judicial title, with a specified rank which places them immediately after knights bachelors. The formal style and title is "his honour judge," in place of Mr. or esquire. The text of the material part of the warrant runs as follows:—"In the exercise of our Royal prerogative we do hereby declare our Royal will and pleasure that in all times hereafter the judges of county courts in England and Wales shall be called, known, and addressed by the style and title of 'His Honour' prefixed to the word 'judge' before their respective names, and shall have rank and precedence next after knights bachelors." The jurisdiction of the county courts is now so largely extended that every change which will make the judgeships attractive to first-class men, early in life, must be advantageous to the public service. The system has for some time been open to the objection that officials without any formal judicial status were having thrown upon them year by year more and more of the duties of superior judges, while they were denied the corresponding rank. The Queen's Warrant satisfactorily puts an end to this anomaly.

The Bank of England authorities, it appears, have been aware for some short time past that a number of forged notes for large amounts have been in circulation, but all efforts to trace them have been fruitless, and not the slightest clue could be obtained as to where these notes were negotiated. In the hope of eventually finding out the culprits few facts have been transpired; but on Monday or Tuesday last a female, accompanied by a respectable tradesman in Leadenhall-market, appeared at the Bank of England and tendered to a cashier a £500 note, which she required cash and notes for. The note to all appearance seemed perfectly genuine, and it was only by the discovery that there were no notes of that particular number issued and for the amount that the forgery was detected. The City detectives, Detective-sergeant Webb and Detective Lythall, who happened to be on duty in or near the Bank, were summoned, and questioned the woman, but she at first declined to give any information whatever as to herself or any particulars as to how she became possessed of the note. The tradesman from Leadenhall-market, however, explained that the female owed him a debt and asked him to change the note, but not being able to do so he had accompanied her to the Bank, and was to be paid his account out of the proceeds. The female, finding that matters so far as she was concerned were likely to take a very serious turn, and that the only other alternative before her was that of being detained in custody, then stated that her husband was a shopkeeper in Mansell-street, Whitechapel. He, she said, had received the note from a friend in the country. The officers proceeded to the address indicated to make further inquiries, and they recovered from the husband three or four exactly similar notes and several £100 notes. He told them that he had received the notes from a man in the employ of the Metropolitan Board of Works, who had brought the notes to him, stating that as he was a tradesman he would be more likely to get them changed than himself. Upon the information thus obtained the officers extended their inquiries further, and ascertained that this man's story was correct, and that the person who had given him the notes was a man employed on Clapham-common by the Metropolitan Board of Works to keep the paths clean. The scavenger at once admitted the truth of the statement, adding that he and two of his companions discovered at the end of November or commencement of December last a box under a furze-bush. They opened the box, and to their amazement found it to be packed with Bank of England notes to the amount variously stated at from £6,000 to £7,000. The notes were all for £500 or £100, and bore various dates and numbers. The men, to use their own words, imagined "their fortunes made," and that "it would be quite unnecessary for them to go to work again." They at once decided to divide equally their find, but had

hesitated to attempt to put the notes into circulation, being apprehensive that the rightful owner might appear. The officers mentioned succeeded in obtaining possession of the whole of the notes, which, it is asserted by all who have seen them, are about the most perfect imitation of the genuine notes that have yet come into the hands of the Bank authorities. The police, it is understood, are still pursuing their inquiries.

Messrs. Mayer and Co., of Munich, and 149, New Bond-street, London, solicit a visit to their showrooms, where they have always on view stained-glass windows and other objects of ecclesiastical art, executed for almost any part of the kingdom. Messrs. Mayer and Co. will have great pleasure in submitting designs and estimates for any window in contemplation, free of all charge.

**CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.**—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. Filters professing to remove lime effectually are fallacy, as no filter yet invented will do so permanently, and all filters in which sponge is introduced are on the old system, for using which with the idea of removing organic matter (that usually productive of disease) the public were cautioned against, as being of no avail, in the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council; and this caution is the more necessary as these filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY PATENTED FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest animal charcoal, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

Anyone afflicted with stammering or stuttering should read a little book (written by a gentleman who cured himself after suffering for more than thirty years), to be had from the Author, Mr. B. Bensley, Green Bank House, Hall Green, near Birmingham, for 13 stamps.

**EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.**—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette*.—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets, labelled—"JAMES EPPS and Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence.

A single bee, with all its industry, energy, and the innumerable journeys it performs, will collect only about a teaspoonful (i.e., one dose) of Hoge's Horehound Honey during one season. It would take thirty-two bees an entire season to fill one of the bottles of this wonderful, natural, and strongly medicinal remedy, which is supplied by any chemist at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. Does not the contemplation of this, and the fact that the Right Honourable John Bright, Marie Roze, the Lord Mayor of London, and numbers of others, say Hoge's Horehound Honey cured them of bad coughs, chest complaints, &c., create an interest in the article and encourage you to try it.

**METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.**—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Jan. 3 was—medical 739, surgical 610; total 1,349, of which 656 were new cases.

#### BIRTHS.

At the British Consulate, Shanghai, the wife of THOMAS LOWNDEN BULLOCK, H.B.M. Consular Service, China, of a daughter.  
Dec. 7, at St. Peter's Rectory, Antigua, West Indies, the wife of the Rev. RICHARD LIONEL TWELLS, of a son.  
Dec. 8, at Hoti Murdu, Punjab, India, the wife of Colonel R. B. CAMPBELL, Queen's Own Corps of Guides, of a daughter.  
Dec. 9, at George's Vicarage, Old Brentford, the wife of the Rev. W. TEMPLETON KING, of a son.  
Jan. 2 the wife of Sir PATRICK BLAKE, Bart., of a son.  
Jan. 2, at Tudbridge-Wells, the wife of the Rev. J. HUMPHREY TOWNSEND, Vicar of St. Mark's, Broadwater Down, of a son.  
Jan. 2, at Seaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury, the wife of the Rev. EDMUND V. PIGOTT, of a son.  
Jan. 4, at the Parsonage, Woodford Wells, the wife of the Rev. N. RICHARD FITZPATRICK, of a son.  
Jan. 5, at Riccarton, N.B., Lady GIBSON CRAIG, of a son.  
Jan. 5, at St. James's Vicarage, Croydon, the wife of the Rev. WALTER R. HICKMAN, of a daughter.  
Jan. 5, at Wootton Waven Vicarage, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, the wife of the Rev. F. H. SLOOOCK, of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

Dec. 30, at Welshpool, the Rev. OWEN JOHNSON, Incumbent of St. David's Church, Welshpool, to MARY E., eldest daughter of WILLIAM GARRAWAY, Esq., of Edencote, Woking.  
Jan. 1, at St. Peter's, Belisle Square, the Rev. CHARLES HERBERT MALDEN, M.A., to MARGARET ALICE, second daughter of the Rev. GILBERT KAREY, M.A., Incumbent of St. John's, Downshire-hill, Hampstead.  
Jan. 2, at the parish church, Hawkhurst, WILLIAM WATERFIELD, late Bengal Civil Service, of the Quarter, Exeter, to MATILDA ROSE, daughter of the late Sir JOHN F. W. HERSCHEL, Bart., of Collingwood, Hawkhurst, Kent.  
Jan. 3, at Holy Trinity Church, Little Amwell, Hertfordshire, the Rev. DAVID GEORGE LATOM BROWN, B.A., Chaplain at Rangoon, to SARAH ELLEN, daughter of THOMAS B. COCKBURN, Esq., of Ravenscroft, Hertfordshire.  
On Jan. 6, Rugby School Chapel, by special licence, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Worcester, assisted by the Rev. Barclay F. Buxton, brother of the bridegroom, ALFRED FOWELL BUXTON, son of T. Fowell Buxton, Esq., of Easpeye, Herts, to VIOLET JEX-BLAKE, second daughter of the Rev. T. W. Jex-Blake, D.D., Head Master of Rugby School.

On Jan. 7, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, by the Bishop of Edinburgh and the Rev. Canon Sellar, M.A., Sir JOHN ROSE GORDON SINGLART, to EDITH, only daughter of Lieut.-Colonel DUNBAR (H.P., 24th regt).

#### DEATHS.

Jan. 1, at West Grinstead Lodge, Sussex, after two days' illness, from congestion of the lungs, FRANCIS WILLIAM, third son of the late Ven. Archdeacon OTTER.  
Jan. 1, at Chichester, SARAH ANNE, elder daughter of the late Rev. GEORGE KOLLO, Vicar of Hartpur, Gloucestershire, aged 88.  
Jan. 2, at Selwood, Upper Tooting, EDITH ROSE, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES HARRIS, M.A., and only daughter of the late Alfred Whitaker, of Frome, Somerset, aged 49.  
Jan. 4, at Weymouth, FRANCES ANNE ROBINSON, third daughter of the late Rev. WILLIAM RAINES, M.A., Oxon, J.P.  
Jan. 5, at her residence, 29, Cambridge-road, Brighton, the Lady LETITIA LOUISA MACGREGOR, widow of the late Courtlandt George Macgregor, Esq.  
Jan. 5, at Llandudno, CHARLES EDWARD, second son of the Rev. CHARLES WOLLEY DOD, of Edge Hall, Malpas, aged 27.  
Jan. 5, at Badgworth Rectory, Somerset, ELIZABETH, wife of the Rev. H. M. MAPLETON, aged 60 years.



PARIS, Jan. 9.

The *Gazette Diplomatique* of to-day states that the French counter-proposals regarding the Egyptian question, which are expected to be presented about the middle of January, will have an exclusively financial character. It will be proposed to issue a loan of £9,000,000 at 3½ per cent. which would be collectively guaranteed by the Powers. A proposal will also be made that foreigners residing in Egypt shall in future pay a personal tax.

BERLIN, Jan. 9.

The Emperor William, in a letter to the members of the Berlin Town Council, acknowledging their congratulations for the New Year, dwells upon the progress made during the past year in the different domains of the political life of the State, and upon the beneficial development of the country's economic affairs. His Majesty then proceeds as follows:—"The settlements on a distant continent which have been placed under the protection of the Empire will give an additional outlet to German enterprise and activity, and will thus assuredly have a beneficial effect in stimulating trade and manufactures. Under the blessed auspices of the peaceful state of affairs which ushers in the New Year, and which I trust will continue, there is every prospect of a gratifying progress in both the material and moral interests of my people."

KORTI, Jan. 8.

Reuter's correspondent arrived here this evening from Gakdul wells, with despatches from the camp for Lord Wolseley. He left the camp at midday on Monday with two servants and a guide. On passing Abou Halfa wells he sighted some loose camels and two armed Arabs about a mile off. He reached Howeyatt wells on Tuesday morning, and there found a number of women and children engaged in drawing water and guarded by two natives armed with swords and spears. On being addressed by Reuter's correspondent, the guards professed friendship for the English. After drawing water for his animals, the natives placed the correspondent in the right direction, his guide having proved false. The country is open for about eighty miles from Korti towards Gakdul, but then becomes dangerous for small parties, as at that point the route is crossed by the roads to Merawee, whence the Mahdi draws his supplies. Caravans, escorted by rebels, are continually passing.

The prisoners in camp persistently assert that the Mahdi's force will offer no serious resistance, the advance of General Stewart's brigade having already struck terror into the hearts of the Mahdi's followers.

The *British Australasian* says:—"The Louisiade, d'Entrecasteaux, and Woodlark Islands, are, we have already announced, to be definitely ours. But we have further and better news than this. A fortnight ago we said that England could not stop short at Cape Nelson in her protectorate over the shore of New Guinea, and leave Dyke Acland Bay, Holihote Bay, Hercules Bay, and the Huon Gulf at the mercy of Germany or any other nationality. Well, England will not do so, and we can now regard the eastern part of New Guinea, as far as the Huon Gulf, as British territory. This is a clear step in the direction of giving 'breadth' to the protectorate."

A telegram from Adelaide in the same paper says:—"The telegraphic messages of the past few days respecting additional annexations in New Guinea, the Louisiade group, and other islands, have somewhat modified the intensity of the feeling previously entertained. Before this, Lord Derby's effigy had been publicly burned."

The Belfast Central Council of the National League has been dissolved, the reason assigned being that they can no longer act in harmony with the Parliamentary party, whose arbitrary treatment in regard to the recent Convention they feel bound, as independent Nationalists, to resent.

The annual supper which Dr. Barnardo gives to street arabs of both sexes took place on Thursday night in the People's Mission Church, Stepney, about 1,200 ragged boys and girls accepted the invitation which had been given to them previously in lodging-houses or the streets. A selection of about two hundred of the most necessitous and destitute cases was made for admission to the benefits of the homes.

## SOCIETY.

A marriage has been arranged between the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos and Miss Graham Montgomery, eldest daughter of Sir Graham and Lady Montgomery, Stobo Castle, Peeblesshire.

Also between Viscount Torrington and Miss Emmeline St. Maur, daughter of the Rev. Henry Seymour, rector of Holme, Pierrepont, Notts.

Also between Captain Wardlaw Ramsay, of Whitehall and Tillicoultry, N.B., and Miss Hogg, elder daughter of the late Mr. Charles Swinton Hogg, and niece of Sir James M'Garel-Hogg, Bart.

Also between Captain Philip Durham, of the 10th Hussars, and Miss Gertrude Bell, youngest daughter of Mr. Matthew Bell, of Bourne Park, Canterbury.

The marriage of Mr. Alfred Fowell Buxton with Miss Violet Jex Blake, daughter of the Headmaster of Rugby, took place on Tuesday in the school chapel, the Bishop of Worcester, assisted by the Rev. Barclay F. Buxton, officiating. The bride wore a dress of thick white silk trimmed with Honiton lace. Her ornaments were diamonds. There were twelve bridesmaids, sisters of the bride and sisters and nieces of the bridegroom. Their dresses were of white Indian silk with blue or crimson plush, and hats to match. They each wore a gold bracelet, the gift of the bridegroom. The wedding presents numbered nearly 300.

The marriage of the Rev. E. D. Lear, vicar of Blackmore, with Judith, daughter of Mr. William Millais, of Wardhill, Farnham, was solemnised on Tuesday at Rowledge, Surrey, very quietly, in consequence of the death of the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Boothby. The officiating clergy were Archdeacon Lear, father of the bridegroom, and the Rev. A. W. Parker, vicar of the parish. The bride was

attended by her two little half-sisters as bridesmaids. Only the nearest relatives were present.

The marriage of Lord Dormer with Miss Emily Constance Campbell Bald, eldest daughter of Mr. John Bald, of Monzie Castle, Perthshire, took place on Thursday in the Church of the Oratory, Brompton. Lord Dormer was accompanied by his brother, the Hon. Herbert Dormer; and the bride was attended by six bridesmaids—namely, Miss Evelyn Barclay, Miss Dormer, Miss Gertrude Dormer, Miss Isabel Hanbury, and Miss Verena and Miss Ethel Bald, and a page, her brother. The Rev. Father Williamson, of the Oratory, officiated, assisted by the Rev. A. Delerme, chaplain to Lord Dormer. Later the newly-wedded pair started for Paris, on their way to Cairo.

The marriage of Sir John Sinclair, of Dunbeath, to Miss Edith Dunbar, only daughter of Colonel Dunbar, of Her Majesty's Body Guard, took place on Tuesday afternoon at St. Peter's Church, Edinburgh. The church, which was decorated for the occasion, was thronged with a large and fashionable congregation. A number of gentlemen, including the bridegroom and best man, Lord Caithness, wore Highland costumes. The bride was conducted to the altar by her father. She wore a dress of the richest white satin brocade trimmed with Mechlin lace and orange-blossoms, with a train of plain white satin. Her ornaments were diamond and pearls. Her little brother followed as a page in full Highland costume. There were eight bridesmaids, who wore dresses of cream brocade and satin, with feather trimming, and high-crowned hats with pale salmon-coloured feathers. Each of them carried a bouquet to match, and wore a double horse-shoe bangle and a stag-horn brooch with gorse, the badge of the Sinclairs, the gift of the bridegroom. The service was fully choral, and the officiating clergy were the Bishop of Edinburgh and Canon Sellar. At the conclusion of the ceremony the wedding party adjourned to Athole-crescent, where the wedding breakfast was served. Later in the afternoon, Sir John and Lady Sinclair drove off, amid showers of rice and old slippers, en route for the Continent. The bride's travelling dress was of Sinclair tartan, with a green velvet bodice and Tam o' Shanter cap of olive-green velvet, with brooch of the Sinclair badge. The presents numbered nearly two hundred.

A juvenile fancy dress ball was given at the Mansion House on Tuesday evening, when the festivities usual on Twelfth Night were kept up till a late hour, and the Egyptian Hall was filled with little people who personified more characters, historical, fairy, and romantic, than were ever seen on the most wonderful Twelfth Cake. There was, observed of all, the tiniest possible Baby Bunting, Master Cecil Palmer (only grandson of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress), and of course a Robinson Crusoe, a lovely pair of love-birds, the renowned white cat of French fairy lore, a small Highlandman about as tall as a walking-stick, Cinderella, Bo-peep, Little Boy Blue, and many other heroes and heroines of nursery fame; a Quakeress who waltzed with much worldly knowledge of the mazy dance, a plump young Boulogne fishgirl who footed the schottische to a miniature Newhaven fishwife as if to the manner born; Dorothy Druce, unjewelled and in the becoming simplicity of grey and white; a boy in artistically devised parti-coloured 14th century costume; and of operatic, dramatic, and historical personages small presentments innumerable. Of the elders present there were the Servian Minister, Lord and Lady Edward Churchill, Sir Thomas and Lady Brassey, Count and Countess Florian, General and Mrs. Higginson, Alderman Sir R. Carden, M.P., Mr. Puleston, M.P., Mr. Holms, M.P., Mr. Ritchie, M.P., Mr. Eaton, M.P., Sir H. de Bathe, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Sir William Charley, Mr. Alderman Staples, Alderman Sir R. Hanson, Mr. Alderman Savory, the Hon. Keith and Mrs. Falconer, Mr. Justice Straight and Mrs. Straight, Mr. and Lady Frances Bushby, Sir Julius and Lady Benedict, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Wilson Barrett, Dr. and Mrs. Garrod, Dr. and Mrs. Forrest, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Hare, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Anson, Mr. and Mrs. Behrens, Mr. Belt, Mr. and Mrs. Kennard, and Mrs. and Mr. J. Cubitt. Supper was served in the old ballroom and other apartments. The company mustered about 900 guests.

Lady Henry Somerset entertained a large party last week for the Dorking ball, also giving one herself at The Priory, Reigate, where she resides, on New Year's Day. The mansion was a blaze of light as the visitors drove through the park to the chief entrance, and great preparations had been made for the occasion. Passing through the long oak-panelled hall, in which tall palms were judiciously arranged, the guests reached the billiard-room, which was given up for dancing. Mr. Chamberlain's well-known band being stationed in one corner on a raised platform. The walls of this room, lined with bookshelves, were much improved by the introduction of crimson draperies over the books, while each panel held a brilliantly lighted sconce. A few tall palms were placed in the corners of the room. The large window opening to the garden had been taken out, thus giving access to a temporary room, through which the guests could reach the drawing-room by the conservatory, which was full of sweet-scented flowers most tastefully arranged. Tea was served on the broad landing overlooking the hall until the dining-room was opened for supper, which was laid on small tables. The menu was excellent, and the display of fine old gold and silver plate was much admired. Dancing was kept up with great spirit until nearly three o'clock. A very large party were staying at The Priory, while the guests at the ball came from far and near. Lady Henry Somerset wore a dress of rich violet velvet, with a front of mauve brocade satin; the velvet bodice opened over satin, and was trimmed with a fringe of pearls in front and on the sleeves; a panier of fine Oriental pearls formed the head-dress, mixed with small diamond stars; Mrs. Somers Cocks wore a dress of white tulle, satin bodice, and trimming of white roses on the skirt and bodice; Mrs. Molesworth wore a costume of bright crimson tulle and broché satin; Miss Laura Gurney, a dress of white tulle, with small gold spot over petticoat of white satin with ruche of satin at the waist, the bodice a *penfant* of spotted tulle and gold waistband; a small spray of gold flowers high on one side of the hair; Miss Somers Cocks, tulle dress in very dark crimson, with satin bodice; the Misses Holman wore very pretty pink tulle dresses, the drapery fastened high on the sides with long bows and loops of satin ribbon. Nearly all the dresses were worn short.

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

It is generally agreed that the exhibition which was opened to the public at Burlington House on Monday last is the best of the winter series of exhibitions representative of the old masters and deceased British artists since the establishment of the welcome custom in 1868-9. In the four galleries there are distributed twenty-four works by Sir Joshua Reynolds, eleven by Gainsborough, eight by Romney, six by Ward, five by Hogarth, and four by Turner. Amongst the foreign masters Rubens is represented by four examples, Jan Steen by seven, Van der Neer by seven, and Jacob Ruysdael by four. The whole of the remainder of the collection, consisting of 256 pictures, is made up of not more than one, two, or three works by any one artist, and amongst these are many magnificent specimens of the fine arts, ranging from the early period of the Van Eycks and their contemporaries to the comparatively modern days of Turner, Landseer, and James Ward. Three of the pictures have been lent by Her Majesty the Queen, and the list of other notable contributors includes the Marquis of Lothian, the Earl of Normanton, Mr. Henry Willett, the trustees of the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. William Graham, Captain Hankey, Mr. William Agnew, M.P., Mr. Charles Butler, Lord Braybrooke, Mr. A. P. Heywood-Lonsdale, the Earl of Jersey, the Duke of Marlborough, the trustees of the Earl of Carlisle, the Marquis of Exeter, Mr. John Chaworth Munster, the National Gallery of Ireland, Sir N. M. de Rothschild, Bart., the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, Mr. Charles Tennant, M.P., the Marquis Townshend, the Misses Vernon, Mr. David P. Sellar, Mr. Briton Riviere, R.A., Mr. J. D. Linton, Mr. James Orrock, Mr. Augustus W. Savile, Mr. Samuel Cousins, R.A., Mr. Charles L. Eastlake, Mr. Frederick Locker, the executors of the late Mr. Albert Levy, Mr. Marcus B. Huish, the Duke of Marlborough, Sir Robert Lloyd-Lindsay, M.P., Mr. Martin Colnaghi, the trustees of the late Sir William Heathcote, Bart., Earl Granville, K.G., and many others whose acquisitions by hereditary or judicious purchase bring them within the roll of distinguished collectors or possessors of art.

In the first gallery there is a fine portrait of "Angelica Kauffman" (2), first of the female Royal Academicians, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds in 1777, so that it represents the accomplished lady at the age of 37, she having been born in Switzerland in 1740. The fair artist holds a porte-crayon in her right hand, and is intently gazing at some object which is not indicated. A portrait of "James Quin" (6), by Hogarth, is from the Marquis Townshend's collection. It represents the distinguished actor, *bon vivant*, and wit as a jovial old gentleman in full-bottomed wig. In the portrait of the celebrated actress and singer, "Mrs. Billington" (9), lent by the Earl of Normanton, Sir Joshua is next seen to great advantage. Two half-figure portraits by Gainsborough, one in a yellow and the other in a pink dress—"The Countess of Erne and Viscountess Dillon" (17)—seated in a landscape, and a portrait of "Elizabeth, Marchioness of Lothian, and Child" (19), by Angelica Kauffman—both good examples—flank right and left one of Turner's Swiss landscapes—"The Devil's Bridge, St. Gothard Pass" (18), with high, precipitous cliffs, a work of quiet majesty and truth. In the central position of the first wall is Sir Edwin Landseer's large painting of a lion lying dead under a rock in the desert, known as "The Fallen Monarch" (22), lent by Mr. W. Agnew, M.P., but it compares unfavourably with the work of James Ward, R.A., "A Lioness" (58), immediately opposite, which, with the blue-black background of wild mountainous landscape, and the anatomically perfect heron, whereon the growling brute has laid her terrible forepaw, is very fine. Other noteworthy pictures on the first wall are "A Conversation at Wanstead House," by Hogarth; "Dancing Dogs" (30), a clever rendering of an itinerant showman making a monkey and some dogs dance before a woman seated at a cottage door, by George Morland; "Two Pigs" (31), by the same. Mr. Samuel Cousins, the veteran line engraver, lends a portrait of "Sir Joshua Reynolds" (39), by Reynolds himself, in which he appears as a ruddy-faced old gentleman with hand held up to the ear in the attitude of a deaf person listening. The other works by Reynolds in this room include the sweet, indicative, sketchy likeness, in an oval frame, of "Mrs. Fazakerley" (40), a portrait of "Samuel Foote" (41), actor and dramatic writer; "Major-General Stringer Lawrence" (45); the undying "Miss Penelope Boothby" (55); the pathetic figure of the little girl pensively mourning "The Dead Bird" (59); "Barbara, Countess of Scarborough" (60); "Mary, Countess of Rothes" (63); and "Mrs. Heywood of Maristow" (66). Of the series of pictures called "The Four Times of the Day," by Hogarth, two are here—"Morning" (44), and "Night" (48), the former a scene in Covent-garden, the latter near Charing-cross. The gem of the landscapes here is John Constable's "Arundel Mill and Castle" (64), a work of surpassing excellence both as regards composition and colour. Then there is a sunny view by Sir A. W. Callcott, "Tomb of Cicero, Mola di Gaeta" (68), with carefully put-in figures of peasants. There is a charming portrait, with unfaded flesh tints, of "Elizabeth, Countess of Derby" (69), by Romney; and "The Beggar Boys" (70), by Gainsborough.

In the second gallery are a large number of works by the old Dutch masters. Frank Hals is represented by a couple of examples, both of which are very fine—"The Fiddler" (94), a man in blue slashed doublet, with brown cloak and hose, playing a violin, and a woman in a red dress and white cape holding a jug in one hand and a glass in the other; and a three-quarter life-size portrait of "A Dutch Lady" (105), prim as to her starched ruff, easy and comfortable regarding her plump, elderly person and good-tempered comical face, at which one may fancy she herself laughed when she saw it mirrored on the canvas. The only work by Gabriel Metz in the exhibition comes from Her Majesty's collection at Buckingham Palace. It is "Le Corset Bleu" (109), a lady in a blue jacket bordered with ermine, and a white satin skirt trimmed with gold lace—a highly finished performance. David Teniers, Jan Fyt, Jan Steen, Jan Van Os, Jacob Ruysdael, Cornelius Jansen, Jan Ochtervelt, Paul Potter, Gerard Terburg, Philip Wouwerman, A. Van Ostade, Tan Huyssan, W. Van der Velde, Adrian Brauwer, Cuyp, and other celebrated exponents of the Dutch school are represented by interesting and beautiful examples.

In the third gallery Hogarth's celebrated "South-west Fair" (144), painted in 1733, will find countless admirers. It is a representation of the holiday amusements of the period, and abounds in comic situations and incidents. On the extreme right *The Fall of Bajazet* was being played, and the stage having given way actors and spectators are falling headlong to the ground. Next are Vanddyke's portraits of "The Duchess of Buckingham and her Three Children" (145), a noble work, from the Duke of Marlborough's collection. From the same collection comes the "Venus and Adonis," a gallery picture; "Portrait of Anne of Austria" (147); and "Departure of Lot and his Family from Sodom" (148), all by Rubens. There is a "Virgin and Child" (158), by Titian, lent by the Marquis of Lothian; and a magnificent Veronese, "The Punishment of Acteon" (159). A landscape (163), lent by Earl Howe, from the accomplished hand of Nicholas Poussin; "The Virgin and Child in Glory" (164), by Murillo; "The Raising of Lazarus" (165), by Bonifazio Veneziano; and "Portrait of a Lady, said to be Titian's Daughter" (166), by Paris Bordone, are all good examples of these respective masters. Lady Milford lends "The City of Venice in Adoration before the Virgin and Child" (168), by Veronese. The Flemish master Sir Antonio More is represented by a portrait of "Queen Mary" (178), daughter of Henry VIII., by Catherine of Arragon, and of "The Duke of Alva" (185), the celebrated Spanish general and statesman, the latter from the Marquis Townshend's collection. "Charles I." (183) on a grey charger is by Van Dyck, as also is "Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford" (188), a devoted adherent of Charles I., who was impeached for high treason and beheaded on Tower-hill, 1641. Here also is Turner's rendering of the "Burning of the Houses of Parliament, October 16th, 1834" (197), taken from the Surrey side close to Westminster-bridge, the sky lit up by the flames which are reflected in the river. This gallery also contains valuable works by Zurbaran, Francia, Velasquez, Lucas de Heere, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Romney, Hoppner, West, and Lawrence.

The fourth and last of the galleries is devoted chiefly to painting of the earlier schools. Here Bartolomeo Vivarini, who has the reputation of painting the first oil picture that was exhibited in Venice, having studied that method under Messina, who acquired it of the Van Eycks, is seen to advantage in his "Death of the Virgin" (206). The picture is signed and dated 1480. The "Marriage of the Virgin" (215), by Jan Van Eyck, is another conspicuous painting; but the one which will be most admired is that marvel of skill and devoted labour, the "Adoration of the Magi" (230), by Mabuse. It is simply a wonderful achievement—a crowning glory of the Flemish school of the sixteenth century. It comes from Castle Howard, and is lent by the trustees of the Earl of Carlisle. The exhibition also includes examples of the works of Fra Bartolomeo, Filippo Lippi, Carlo Crivelli, Cennino Cennini, Sandro Botticelli, and Domenico Ghirlandaio.

## DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed ACROSTIC EDITOR, John Bull, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

## ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 6.

(THIRTY-SIXTH QUARTER.)

1. M ournin G
2. A ugerua U
3. H unyad I
4. D espon D
5. I nnocenc E

Solutions have been received from Roma, Asphodel, Perservere, Sarnis, Paddy, Zenobia, M.A.E.B., Burleigh, Sociable, Hampton Courtier, Pandora, and Zyx.

ACME.—Your solution of Acrostic No. 4 was acknowledged last week.

## DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 8.

(THIRTY-SIXTH QUARTER.)

## PROEM.

Annexation—that's the name  
With which might the right doth claim.  
Now this is strictly true,  
My second is both obsolete and new;  
And Fatherland has found what we have lost  
(Say, is it coin or land,  
Metal or sea-girl strand?)  
And has claimed property, to England's cost.  
The coin we sacked, the land we failed to claim;  
Who solves this proem finds the now suited name.

## 1.

Hot and sweet,  
With spirit mixed discreet.

## 2.

Shrine of the Good Genius—in thy long valley, Nile,  
Of Egypt's ruined temples the most perfect pile.

## 3.

Of this man Bulwer wrote—  
Last of his kind, and therefore of some note.

## 4.

This is the wild waves' plaintive sound  
When the long billows strike the ground.

## 5.

A word dear to Jack Tar;  
He muses on it when afar.

## 6.

Another Treaty question for consideration, this—  
What will it matter, though we take it much amiss?

F.

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